

THE *Country* GUIDE

In this issue . . .

- Bulk Handling of Feed
- Herbicides News for '59
- Journey to Light

CANADA'S NATIONAL RURAL MONTHLY
APPLIED SCIENCE READING ROOM

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THE Country GUIDE

Incorporating The Nor'-West Farmer and Farm and Home
CANADA'S NATIONAL RURAL MONTHLY

In This Issue



● **WHAT DOES S.Q. MEAN?**
You'll find the answer on page 16, where Cliff Faulknor reports on a farm safety check, and asks some pointed questions. See also the home safety quiz, page 80.

● **NADINE ARCHIBALD** believes farm women needn't tie themselves exclusively to their homes. Her story as homemaker and secretary-treasurer of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture appears on page 83.

ONE ACRE—700 POUNDS OF BEEF! Don Baron inquired into a new trend to earn silage and got some pretty interesting answers. See page 18.

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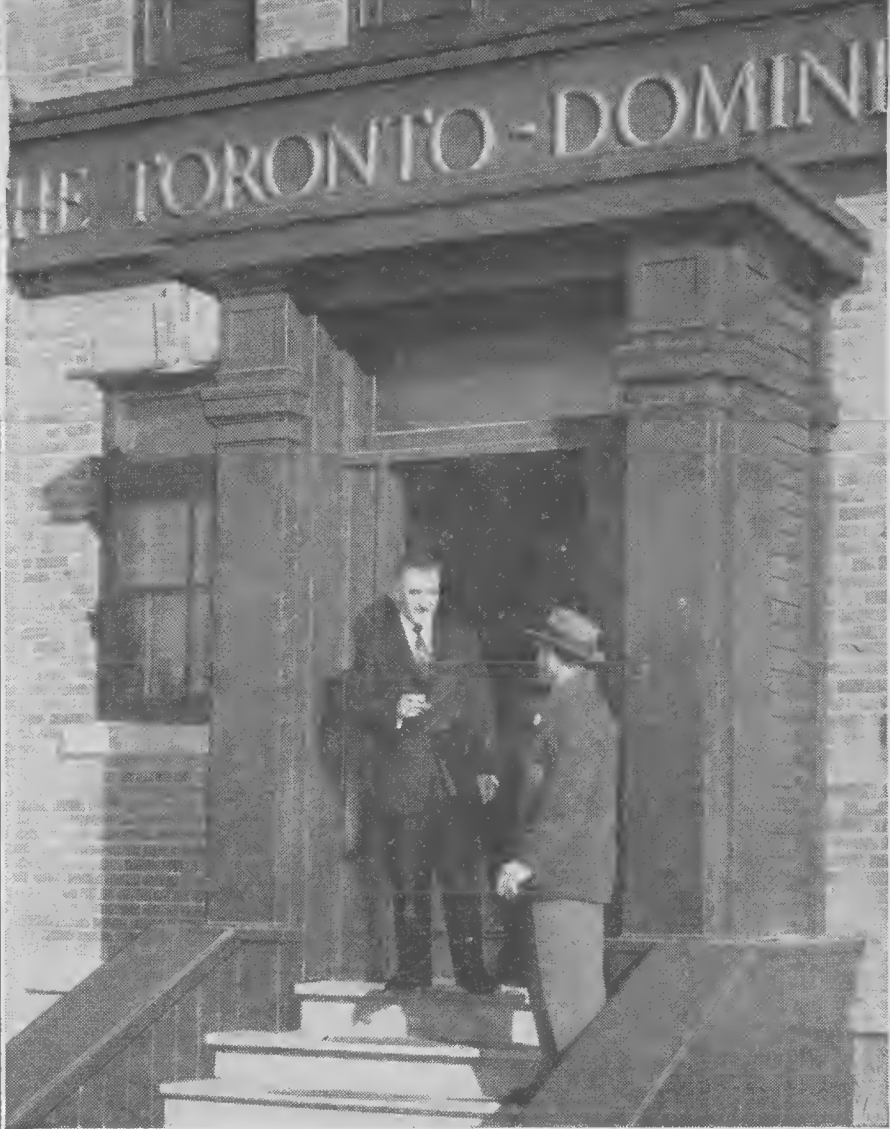
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COVER: This is a sight we've all been longing to see. For some it's already here, for others it's just around the corner.—Miller Services photo.



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Editorials

Where Is the Hog Board Heading?

AT the Ontario Hog Producers' Association annual meeting in March, Charles McInnis devoted a substantial portion of his presidential address to an attack on meat packers and other non-farm interests for an alleged attempt "to prevent us from developing our simple, yet fundamental right to sell."

Let us examine the situation to which he refers.

The Association has worked diligently in recent years to bring hogs under the province's marketing legislation. It hoped to control sales and conditions of sale, to eliminate "under-the-table" payments, "direct-to-the-packer" shipments, and other practices employed in marketing which it believed prevented hogs from being sold in the producers' best interests. Its efforts have met with considerable success. The Association's Marketing Board has now reached a point where it is the single selling agency for virtually all the \$100 million worth of hogs produced in the province each year. In effect, packers in Ontario who want hogs must go to the Board for them.

In achieving this control, the Board has aroused some resentment and, in some instances, outright opposition. There are two major sources of irritation. Some farmers object to the compulsory feature of the marketing plan which compels them to turn over the selling of their hogs to the Board. The other involves the method of sale used by the Board.

It was obvious from the vote taken on the plan last summer that many farmers themselves did not wish to support it. Almost a third of the hog producers who voted, expressed their opposition, and the heaviest opposition came from the most important hog producing areas. The Barrie Co-operative Packing Plant, which is farmer-owned, is purported to be dissatisfied with the Board's marketing methods. In addition, some farm leaders in the province are known to be greatly concerned lest the present selling system be maintained until lasting damage is done to the hog plan, and to other producer marketing plans in the province as well.

Ontario, through its marketing legislation, has probably given farmers more powers to market their own products collectively than any other province with the exception of British Columbia. The government is both involved and concerned with the hog marketing plan, which by long odds is the most contentious and troublesome one in the province. The plan has been challenged continuously in the courts by truckers and producers. The Government has taken its legislation as far as the Supreme Court of Canada in an endeavor to establish its validity, and hence to support the hog plan and other marketing plans which operate under it. Nevertheless, in recent months, the Government has become fearful that the present method of selling hogs is threatening not only the hog plan, but its entire producer marketing legislation.

HOW does the Hog Board's agency sell the hogs? Well, essentially, after taking into consideration all the market factors, it establishes an asking price. It then takes bids from the packers, usually by telephone, for various lots of hogs in position at the Board's marketing points across Ontario. Prices are established according to the bids received. Packers offering the highest bids get first consideration, and the allocation of hogs follows.

This method is open to criticism on two counts. First, packer representatives claim that

a fundamental fault is that each buyer does not have an opportunity to better any other buyer's bid up to the moment of the sale. In the second place, the Ontario Government and others state that under the method there is a possibility of some packers getting preferred treatment. In support of this viewpoint, an independent study of the selling method by economists at the University of Alberta points out: "There is room for a good deal of discrimination on the part of the agency against various processors."

Some months ago the Government initiated a series of private meetings between representatives of the Hog Board and the packers in the firm hope that they could negotiate a mutually acceptable selling method. As these meetings dragged on, Premier Frost began to sit in and to urge agreement. He asked for a system of open marketing by the Board that would assure all buyers a fair opportunity to purchase, and under which there would be no problems of allotting hogs that could cause the downfall of the plan.

In November of last year, Agriculture Minister Goodfellow, speaking at the annual meet-

Farm Policy Research

SINCE the turn of the year both of Canada's major farm organizations have renewed their previous requests to the Canadian Government for support and assistance in establishing an independent farm policy research agency. They submit, and we concur, that there is a pressing need for the kind of investigations that such a body could carry out.

No one will deny that the farming industry faces a great many perplexing problems. With the advances being made in science and technology, with specialization and mass production methods becoming more pronounced, and with the changes taking place in the off-farm sector of the agricultural industry, such problems are becoming more intensified and new ones are appearing. Moreover, as a major exporter of farm commodities, Canada's policies can scarcely be divorced from the current complexities and difficulties encountered in the field of foreign trade. Under these circumstances, there is no doubt whatsoever that the authoritative information and research findings of the proposed agency could be of great assistance in helping farmers to understand clearly the direction in which they are going, the alternatives that are available to them, and to the nation, in the field of farm policy.

Commenting on the value of the work of such an agency, the Interprovincial Farm Union Council's recent brief to the Federal Cabinet had this to say: "The suggested policy research should investigate policy issues on a broad level to make sure the relevant facts are ascertained, careful analysis carried out, trends identified, and future possibilities clarified. Frequently, on this basis, the alternatives of policy could be presented sharply, the implications of each specified and the likelihood of agreement and decision improved. Unrealistic alternatives could be eliminated from the range of choice, and the attention of contending groups could be focused on policy issues with a better chance of constructive solution."

The I.F.U.C. brief goes on to suggest specific and, we believe, constructive pro-

ing of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, said that some changes would have to be made in the hog plan to make it more acceptable to all who were involved with it. When the Hog Board publicly criticized the packers for asking for an auction system, Mr. Goodfellow stated in the Legislature that it had been a farm leader who first suggested a Dutch clock for hogs. Last month, Premier Frost, also speaking in the Legislature, expressed concern lest the present selling system would drive packers out of the province. He said, "we must not engage in selling techniques that are putting our producers at a disadvantage."

Mr. Frost has made it clear that he will continue to support the hog plan and will do everything he can to make it work, because the principle of compulsory collective marketing is right. Packers have indicated their acceptance of this principle too. But the Premier insists that the present method of selling hogs must be revised to provide one that will work so well as to avoid any possibility of unfairness to either the vendor or purchaser.

We are in sympathy with the objective of the Association to strengthen the bargaining power of hog producers. We believe its Board has a potential for providing both economic and social improvements to producers if properly run. The evidence suggests, however, that it has a way to go in cementing its relations with producers and in inspiring the confidence of the purchasers. We believe the fate of the Hog Board lies in its own hands and not, as Mr. McInnis implies, in the opposition from processors and non-farm interests. V

posals as to how such a research agency might be organized and financed. In the initial stages, it is proposed that the agency be established on a relatively modest scale, with the idea that, as it gained experience and recognition, it could be expanded. To start with the agency could employ a small, able and highly qualified research group trained in one or more of the following fields: economics, sociology, political science, and public administration. Provided with offices, equipment and clerical staff, this group could study the economic, political and administrative issues involved in agricultural policies, beginning with wheat policies. The research could be financed initially by an assignment of funds from the Undistributed Payments Account of the Canadian Wheat Board for a study of policy relating to wheat, and by the addition of further grants from governments or other interested groups or organizations. Eventually, to carry on the research, grants might be secured from the Canada Council for special studies; from governments for maintaining the research, or for specific policy research projects; and, from farm and other organizations concerned with the welfare of agriculture. It is proposed that funds from such sources should be accumulated beyond current needs so that an endowment fund could be established to ensure continuation of such independent research. The I.F.U.C. estimates that the agency could be launched in the first year with a budget of about \$160,000.

The appalling fact that such an independent research agency does not now exist, and that economic and social research into the problems of agriculture and rural living are woefully inadequate, is indeed inexcusable. The Federal Government should call a meeting of representatives of the two farm organizations immediately, and assist and support them in getting this highly important project underway this year without fail. It has already been pigeonholed far too long.

Our closing thought is to stress the necessity of the proposed agency being set up in such a way as to ensure its independence from any outside pressures. Functioning on any other basis could undermine its effectiveness. V

THE NEW WHEAT AGREEMENT

by LORNE HURD

AFTER 6 weeks of negotiation at Geneva, agreement has been reached on the terms of a new 3-year international wheat scheme to start on August 1 of this year. The governments of the 9 exporting countries, which excludes Russia, and some 30 importing countries are expected to ratify the revised International Wheat Agreement this month. The new I.W.A. is to remain open for signature in Washington from April 6 until and including April 24.

Newcomers to the list of exporters are Italy, Mexico and Spain. Among the importers the big news is that the U.K., the largest importing country, and Canada's principal customer, is expected to join the pact after an absence of 6 years.

The new Wheat Agreement has been described as differing greatly in form from the one that expires on July 31. Here are some of the major differences and features of the proposed 1959-62 Agreement.

- **Broader Objectives.** The objectives of the Agreement have been broadened. The previous Agreements had as their objective the assurance of supplies of wheat and wheat flour to importing countries and markets for wheat and wheat flour to exporting countries at equitable and stable prices. In the new Agreement the following objectives have been added:

1. To promote the expansion of the international trade in wheat and wheat flour and to secure the freest possible flow of this trade in the interests of both the importing and exporting countries.

2. To overcome the serious hardship caused to producers and consumers by burdensome surpluses and critical shortages of wheat.

3. To encourage the use and consumption of wheat and wheat flour generally, and in particular, so as to improve health and nutrition, in countries where the possibility of increased consumption exists.

4. To further international co-operation in connection with world wheat problems, recognizing the relationship of the trade in wheat to the economic stability of markets for other agricultural products.

These objectives are, of course, stated in broad, general terms. Obviously, the extent to which they are worthwhile depends on what is done to implement them.

- **A Lower Maximum—Same Minimum.** The Agreement provides for a new maximum price of \$1.90 (Canadian dollars at par of exchange) as against the prevailing upper limit of \$2.00. This change may be of no real significance since there seems little likelihood of prices reaching the new maximum during the next three years, in view of the size of current world wheat supplies.

The minimum price remains unchanged at \$1.50.

As in previous Agreements the maximum and minimum prices are to be based on the Canadian standard

grade No. 1 Northern wheat in bulk in store at Fort William/Port Arthur.

For other wheat and for other ports of origin, minimum prices are to be calculated by taking into account current transportation costs, exchange rates, and such price differentials for quality as may be agreed between the exporting and importing country concerned.

It thus appears that while Canada is morally obligated not to offer No. 1 Northern at less than \$1.50 per bushel, prices for Canadian grades and for wheat of other countries could go much lower if the buyer and seller should agree that a large quality discount was applicable at any time.

Notwithstanding, wheat buyers in general have indicated that even in times of surplus, they think it not unreasonable to pay between \$1.50 and \$1.90 for a bushel of wheat of top quality.

- **Obligations Differ.** Under the expiring Agreement neither importers nor exporters have been obliged to buy or sell while wheat prices kept within the agreed maximum and minimum prices. Only at the maximum price could exporters be obliged to sell a fixed quantity and only at the minimum were importers obliged to buy the same fixed quantities.

The new Agreement rejects fixed quantities and the "put" and "call" for them. Instead, importing countries undertake each year to buy from exporting members, as long as the price is below the maximum, not less than a given percentage of their total commercial imports. The exporters collectively undertake to supply all the commercial requirements of the importers.

At the maximum price, should this price level be reached, the obligations of exporting countries are no longer to supply all commercial requirements, but are limited to a definite quantity, which is based on the average volume of purchases by importing countries from them over a recent period of years, to be known as the "datum quantity."

At the same time, if the price reaches the maximum, importing countries are freed from their percentage obligations so that they may seek to obtain their commercial requirements during a maximum period from any source, although they may if they wish take up their rights against exporting countries to the extent of their "datum quantity." There is provision for the partial release of the obligations of the importing countries in the event that the wheats of only one or more exporting countries, but not all, are at the maximum.

The following are a few examples of the percentages of their commercial wheat requirements that certain importing countries undertake to buy from exporting countries when prices fall within the range: Austria 45; Japan 50; Denmark 60; the Netherlands 75; the U.K. and Belgium 80;

Cuba, Haiti, New Zealand and South Africa 90; and, the Vatican City 100.

It is estimated that under this new system, something in the neighborhood of 65 per cent of the world's commercial wheat exports, not including special transactions, will be negotiated under the Agreement. However, while this is a sharp increase over the amount traded under the current Agreement, which runs at about 25 per cent of the total, it is apparent that a substantial quantity of both commercial and other transactions remain to be negotiated outside the new I.W.A.

- **Wheat Council Continues.** The Agreement will be administered by the International Wheat Council. The Council will consist of one delegate from each exporting and importing country, but voting powers are in relationship to a country's importance as a trader. For example, while the number of votes for both importing and exporting countries total 1,000, Canada and the U.S. each hold 339, or together better than two-thirds of the votes allotted to the exporting countries. Similarly, the U.K., as the largest importer, holds 347 votes out of the 1,000 assigned to importing countries. The seat of the Council will be in London. Its chief administrative officer will be an Executive Secretary.

- **Records to Include Surplus Disposal Transactions.** The Wheat Council is to keep records of all commercial transactions under the Agreement. In addition, it is to be informed and keep separate records of all purchases by importers from non-members, and all special transactions on concessional terms such as India's purchases from the United States under Public Law 480.

Such special transactions are to be recorded under the Agreement for the first time. They are, of course, not considered commercial transactions for the purposes of the Agreement. They include (a) sales on long-term credit resulting from government intervention; (b) sales under tied government loans; (c) sales for inconvertible currency; (d) barter transactions; (e) bilateral trade agreements; and (f) gifts or grants. In disposing of surpluses, or in making such special transactions, members must inform the Council of measures taken to comply with the following three principles:

1. Whenever possible surpluses should be disposed of by efforts to increase consumption;

2. Disposal should be made in an orderly manner; and

3. Concessional sales should not harm normal patterns of production and international commercial trade.

- **Annual Review to be Made.** The Council is to review the world wheat situation annually and is to inform the members of the effects upon the international trade in wheat of any of the facts which emerge from the review. The Council is also required to inform members of appro-

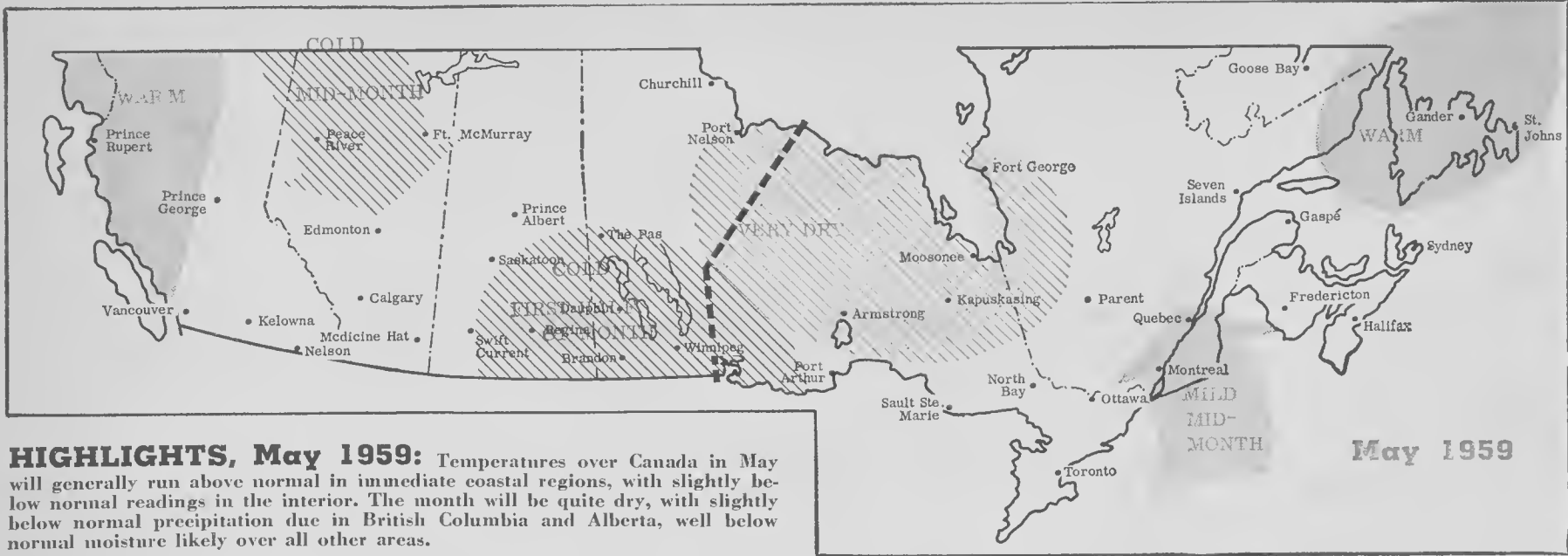
priate methods of encouraging the consumption of wheat. To this end it is to undertake studies of such matters as: (i) factors affecting the consumption of wheat in the various countries; and (ii) means of promoting consumption. However, nothing is to prejudice the complete liberty of action of the signatories in the determination and administration of their own internal agricultural and price policies.

- **Withdrawal Possible.** If any exporting or importing country considers its interests are being prejudiced, for example by national selling policies, and cannot obtain satisfaction from the Wheat Council, it can withdraw from the Agreement at the end of the crop year by giving written notice.

- **Performance and Default.** The Wheat Council is to review the performance of the importing and exporting countries in relation to their obligations under the Agreement as soon as practicable after the end of each crop year. If the Council finds by a majority vote that an exporting or importing country is in default of its obligations, it may, by a similar vote deprive the country concerned of its voting rights for such period as the Council may determine, reduce the rights of that country to the extent which it considers commensurate with the default, or expel that country from the Agreement.

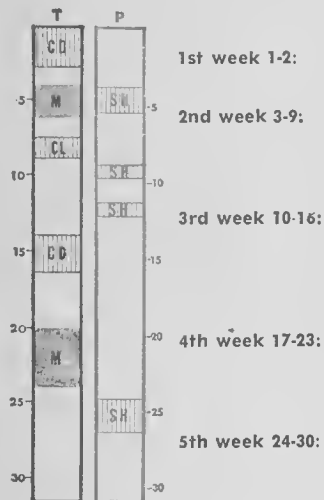
- **Adjustments.** Under the terms of the Agreement, exporting countries may be relieved of a part or the whole of their obligations in the event of a short crop in a particular crop year by application to and approval of the Wheat Council. Similarly, an importing country may be relieved of its obligations in whole or in part in order to safeguard its balance of payments or monetary reserve positions. The Council may also be approached for special assistance in obtaining supplies of wheat in the event that a critical need has arisen or threatens to arise in an importing country. The Agreement further provides that an exporting country may transfer part of its export commitments to another exporting country, and an importing country may transfer part of its export entitlements to another importing country for a crop year, subject to approval by the Wheat Council.

In summing up, the new Agreement will provide, on a regular basis, a much more detailed picture of how wheat is being distributed throughout the world than formerly. In broad terms, it recognizes the importance of wheat in world trade. It provides an opportunity, but only if followed through and exploited, of increasing the consumption of wheat. This would appear to be a matter to which Canada should devote urgent attention. And finally, and perhaps most important of all, the revisions in the Agreement provide an opportunity for the Wheat Council, which in the past has not been very useful, to become a much more active forum for tackling the numerous and complex problems connected with wheat trade.



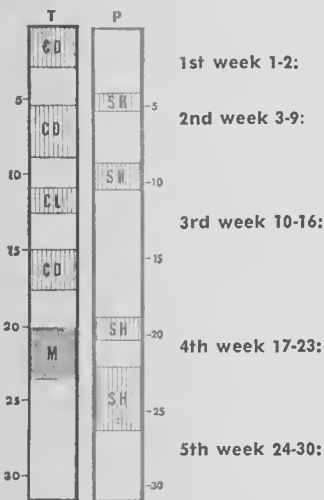
HIGHLIGHTS, May 1959: Temperatures over Canada in May will generally run above normal in immediate coastal regions, with slightly below normal readings in the interior. The month will be quite dry, with slightly below normal precipitation due in British Columbia and Alberta, well below normal moisture likely over all other areas.

(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



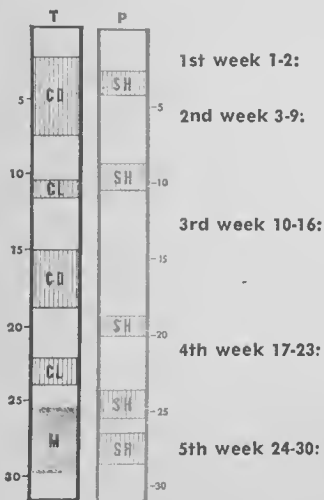
Alberta

- 1st week 1-2:** Mostly fair during these two days, but cool, with minimum temperatures in 20's.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Moderating temperatures are expected during first half of period, turning cool again toward week end. Showers likely 4th and 5th, and on week end. Maximum temperatures early in week in the 50's.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Cool, showery weather at beginning will give way to clearing skies early in week. More showers likely mid-week. Temperatures near normal most of week, minimums in 30's. Cold at week end, with sub-freezing temperatures.
- 4th week 17-23:** Warming trend at start of week, reaching mild weather proportions by latter half, with daytime highs into the 60's. No important storminess during this period.
- 5th week 24-30:** Month's most important precipitation should occur during first half of period, accompanied by mild temperatures. Skies should clear by mid-week.



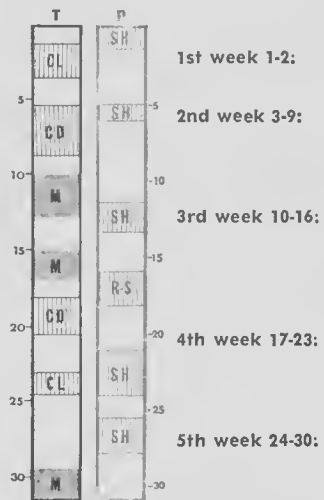
Saskatchewan

- 1st week 1-2:** Fair, cool weather both of these days, with minimum temperatures in the low 20's.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Showers likely to occur around mid-week on a day or two, followed by a new outbreak of cooler air during latter half of this period. Deteriorating weather conditions likely at week end.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Showery on one or two days at start of week, clearing and turning colder by week end. Temperatures generally quite cool through much of the week, dropping below freezing for brief periods at week end.
- 4th week 17-23:** Cool weather at start of period, but warming rapidly and becoming quite mild during latter half of period. Showers are likely on one or two days around mid-week.
- 5th week 24-30:** Mild and showery conditions expected through much of the first half of this week, with clearing skies at mid-week. Fair and mild through the 31st.



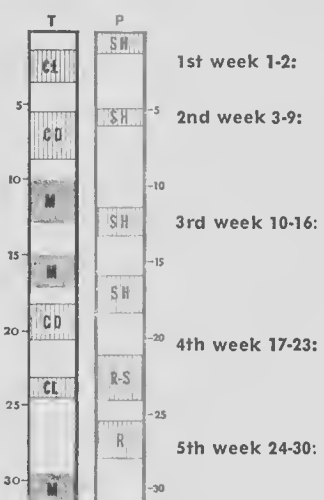
Manitoba

- 1st week 1-2:** Mostly fair weather, with near normal temperatures both days. Maximums near 60; minimums in 30's.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Showers and some snow likely at start of period. Fair weather through mid-week, deteriorating at week end. Predominantly cool, with minimum temperatures below freezing early in the week.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Showers at start, with briefly moderating temperatures, but new cool outbreak due at mid-week, with temperatures continuing on cool side through the period. Quite cold with near freezing temperatures at week end.
- 4th week 17-23:** Cold at start of this week, with the temperature moderating at mid-week. Showers likely on a day or two around mid-week. Fair, turning cooler again at week end.
- 5th week 24-30:** Considerable shower activity on two or three days of week, with threat of showers lingering through 29th. Fair and mild 30th and 31st.



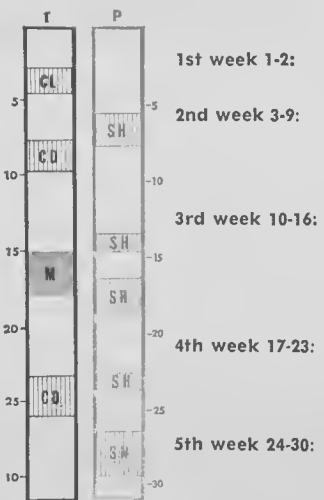
Ontario

- 1st week 1-2:** Showers are likely on the 1st, turning cooler on the 2nd and clearing.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Predominantly cool weather throughout this period, with brief showers and possibly some light snow occurring at mid-week. Temperatures generally will remain above freezing through period, however.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Moderating temperatures are expected, with daytime readings climbing into 70's likely this week. Some shower activity on one or two days at mid-week, with more showers moving into region on week end.
- 4th week 17-23:** Showery at start of period on one or two days. Turning cooler at mid-week, with more showers expected to move into the region at the end of the period.
- 5th week 24-30:** Brief clearing at start, but more showers on a day or two around mid-week. Mild in latter half of week, with fair, mild weather on 30th and 31st.



Quebec

- 1st week 1-2:** Showers likely on 1st; cooler, clearing weather moving into most of region on 2nd.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Generally cool temperatures will dominate most of week. Minimum temperatures in the 30's in south, well below freezing in north. Showers and some snow likely around mid-week on a day or two.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Mostly mild temperatures are expected through this period, with showers likely on a day or two around mid-week. The daytime high temperatures will be registering frequently in the upper 60's during this period.
- 4th week 17-23:** Showers at start of week, clearing and turning cool at mid-week. More showers will move into the area at week end, and will be accompanied by more cool weather.
- 5th week 24-30:** Clear and cool early in week, but more showers on a day or two around mid-week. Clear, mild weather during latter half of week and through 31st.



Atlantic Provinces

- 1st week 1-2:** Near normal temperatures, daytime highs in 50's, overnight lows in 30's. No important storminess.
- 2nd week 3-9:** Cool at start of week, with showers likely on day or two around mid-week. A new cool outbreak will move in toward the end of the week, dropping temperatures to near freezing in many areas.
- 3rd week 10-16:** Temperatures are expected to be near normal through this period, with daytime highs in 50's, overnight lows near 40. Brief showers likely following mid-week, but weather expected to clear at week end.
- 4th week 17-23:** Showery at start of period on day or two. Mostly fair through mid-week, with mild temperatures. Showers will resume at week end, followed by cooler temperatures.
- 5th week 24-30:** Cold at start of week, with minimum temperatures in 30's on one or two days. Latter half of week cloudy and showery, clearing and mild on 31st.

Son, this hayin's really payin'!

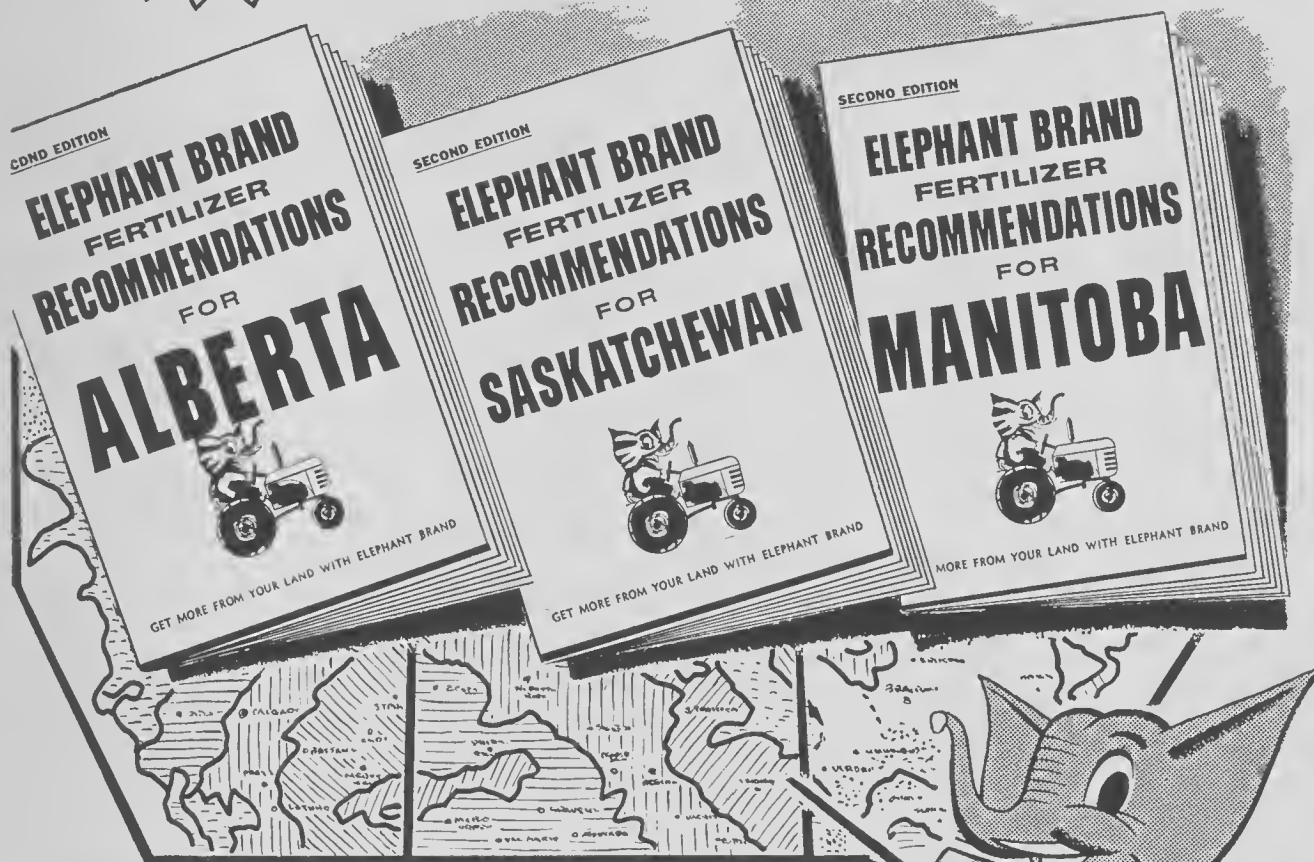


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Letters

Dry and Too Serious

There were two reasons why I did not renew my subscription to The Country Guide. First, the cost, and second the Guide, in my estimation, isn't as interesting as it used to be.

What about reviving "The Grass Roots?" and more picture stories by Eric Wahleen. Farmers want to be entertained as well as informed. These days there are more technicalities placed before a farmer than he knows how to cope with. You've just got a little dry and a lot too serious.

But I'll take you up on your offer of \$1 for 4 years. Here's to success and long continuation of The Guide.

C. J. BROECHEL,
Star City, Sask.

We appreciate getting this reaction. There will be more Wahleen picture stories. We do attempt to lighten the editorial content of each issue with material designed to be entertaining. This includes fiction for adults and children, human interest stories, pictures, poetry and cartoons, and such specials as "Rural Route Letter," "The Tillers" and "Through Field and Wood." Will try to do an even better job in future.—Ed.

A Note from Mr. Jordan

A short time ago (January issue) you published the picture of my wife and I celebrating our 73rd Wedding Anniversary.

We have received many letters of congratulations on our long and happy life together. Some asked me to write. Others did not give their name or address. I would like to answer these letters, but with only a very small pension I do not feel I can afford the postage. If those that would like an answer would put a stamp in, I'll write to them with much pleasure.

Again thanking you Mr. Editor, and the writers and would-be-writers who forgot their names and addresses.

CHARLES JORDAN,
1485 Gilmore Ave.,
N. Burnaby 2, B.C.

Postage has been sent to Mr. Jordan to cover his needs. Correspondents will be hearing from him in due course.—Ed.

Good Questions

Your editorial "Hope for Redress" (December issue) links up with the question: What is to be expected when the next contract between the railways and the unions comes to be signed?

Up to the present it has been routine for unions to demand and secure higher rates of pay with each new contract. Will the next rail contract be an exception?

The prospect for any halt in the wage-cost-price spiral is not good. The declared policy of the C.L.C.-C.C.F. combine is to have no part in "holding the line," but by strike action, whenever necessary, to compel companies to raise wages. The railways being very vulnerable to such coercion can hardly hope that the present settlement is anything more than a reprieve.

J. N. BECKSTEAD,
Ottawa, Ont.

(Please turn to page 97)

**Never before
were you readier...**

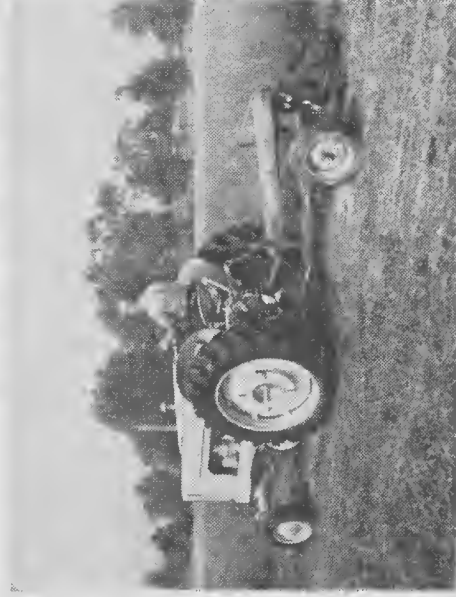
to roll into high gear... never before was haying more efficient than with these new Cockshutt mowers, rakes and balers. Hitch them to a powerful "500" series Cockshutt tractor, and you've got a team that trims fields down to stubble slicker and faster, yet keeps all the food value in those bales. These are just a few of Cockshutt's big selection of haying equipment. See them at your Cockshutt dealer... and try out the new, powerful Cockshutt tractor while you're there. Be ready to roll when the crop is ripe, the weather's right.



**Cockshutt's
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MAKE HAY DAYS PAYDAYS

Fastest acting mowers on the market. Whether it's a trail type, semi or 3-point hitch mounted — a Cockshutt Mower trails the tractor like a shadow — cuts cleanly up to 40 acres a day. Fast cutter bar control saves more of the crop when clearing obstructions. Safety trip release prevents cutter bar damage.



Unequaled for fast, clean raking. Cockshutt's new 311 Reciprocating Rake has faster, easier raking action — moves crop from swath to windrow in only 1/3rd of distance needed by ordinary rake. Ground-driven reel for gentler handling. Manual or hydraulic control.



Bale more tons per hour. Cockshutt's new balers have side fork delivery for gentler handling — packs more feed value into every bale because there's no leaf-shattering action, no hay trampling auger. Available in either P.T.O. or engine drive.



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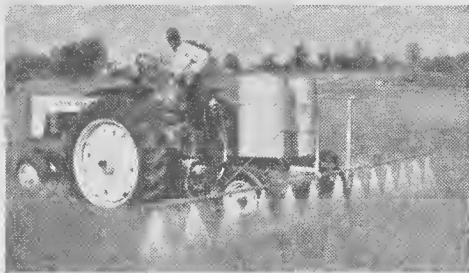
Hanson Swath-a-matic Bradjet (above) is actually five farm sprayers in one—handles all your spraying jobs; automatically sprays with-the-wind with broad, effective swaths.

Hanson E-Z Spray (right) is the sprayer bargain of the season—features wear- and corrosion-resistant ceramic nozzles; 21-foot, 3-section boom; 8-way control; nylon-roller pump kit; steel trailer; hoses and fittings.

Farmers praise Hanson Spraying Equipment!

A. G. Chinnery, Caranation, Alberta writes, "Your Swath-a-matic is the best weed sprayer I have ever seen or used . . ."

Marcel Pierson, Parkman, Saskatchewan says, "I am very satisfied with your sprayer . . . Your selector valve is the best I've ever seen."



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What's Happening

TO INVESTIGATE FARM PRODUCTION AND MARKETS

The Ontario Government has set up a Committee of Inquiry into the production and marketing of farm products in Ontario. The Committee will inquire generally into the problems and economics of packing, storage, processing, marketing, transporting and distributing agricultural products produced in the province. Particular attention will be paid to existing procedures and facilities in the light of present large scale food processing and distributing systems; the affect of this concentration of buying power on the producer; and, the most practical form of producer group action to meet this concentration.

Chairman of the Committee will be Fred W. P. Jones, dean, School of Business Administration, Western University. Other members are George McCague, Harriston; Dr. Frank Palmer, Vineland; and Prof. Ralph Campbell, of the Ontario Agricultural College.

SEEK IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON POULTRY

A price support program for all poultry and dairy production in Canada with the amount of support limited to "ensure a reasonable profit to the average family farm in Canada" was requested by delegates to Manitoba Dairy and Poultry Co-op's annual meeting in Winnipeg, March 25 and 26.

Delegates also asked for import restrictions on chicken and fowl and continuation of present restrictions on turkey imports.

The co-op's board of directors was requested to seek financial assistance from other co-operatives and the Manitoba Government for a co-op packing plant.

The meeting recommended: removal of the freight subsidy on feed grains to Eastern Canada; that "anyone engaged in the farming profession be required to obtain a license under specific regulations demanding that he be a bona fide farmer" to help meet the present trend to vertical integration; deficiency payments on poultry products to bona fide farmers on a limited basis.

Financially, the co-op reported a successful year; \$73,162 was slated for members on dairy operations, \$36,302 on eggs and \$34,828 on poultry.

1959 INTENDED ACREAGES

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics released its customary estimates on March 18 of intended acreages to be sown to principal field crops in Canada. The figures are based on a crop correspondent survey conducted in co-operation with provincial departments and is indicative of farmers' plans at March 1.

Wheat. All wheat acreage may stand at 22.7 million acres, an increase of 1.8 million acres or 9 per cent from 1958 seedings, but still 0.9 million acres or 4 per cent below the 1953-57 average. Prairie Province increases appear as follows: Manitoba up 8 per cent, Saskatchewan up 10 per cent, and Alberta up 6 per cent.

Prospective plantings of spring wheat of 22.2 million acres are 9 per cent above the 1958 acreage of 20.3 million. Durum wheat, which is estimated separately, indicates a further switch out of this crop amounting to 10 per cent for the Prairie Provinces, with the greatest decline coming in Alberta.

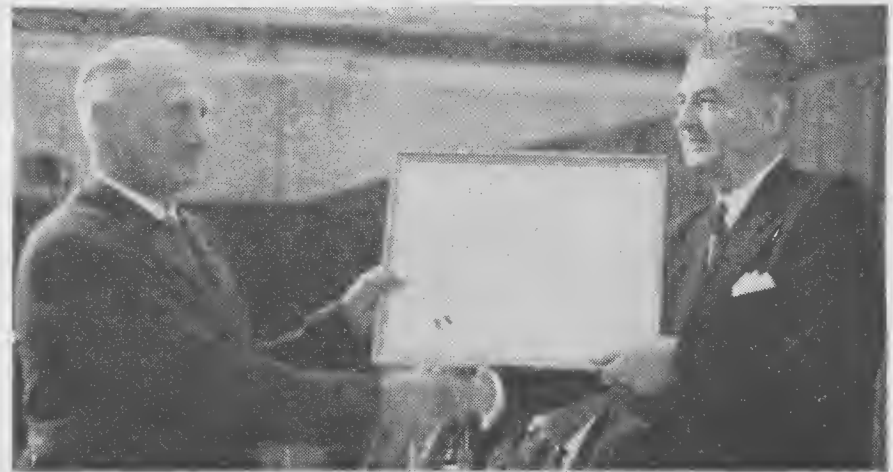
The acres seeded to winter wheat last fall in Ontario is unchanged from the previous year and is the smallest since 1946.

Rye. The area intended for spring rye in 1959, at 117,600 acres, is 5 per cent above last year's level. With the acreage seeded to fall rye last autumn being unchanged from the previous year, the combined acreage of fall and spring rye is placed at 525,900 acres, up 1 per cent from last season, but 36 per cent below the 1953-57 average.

Oats. The intended acreage of oats for grain at 11.4 million acres is 3 per cent above last year and 6 per cent above the 1953-57 average.

Barley. Prospective barley acreage is placed at 9.0 million acres, down 6 per cent from a year earlier, but still 1 per cent larger than the 1953-57 average.

Mixed Grains. Acreage intentions of 1.5 million are 6 per cent above (Please turn to page 102)

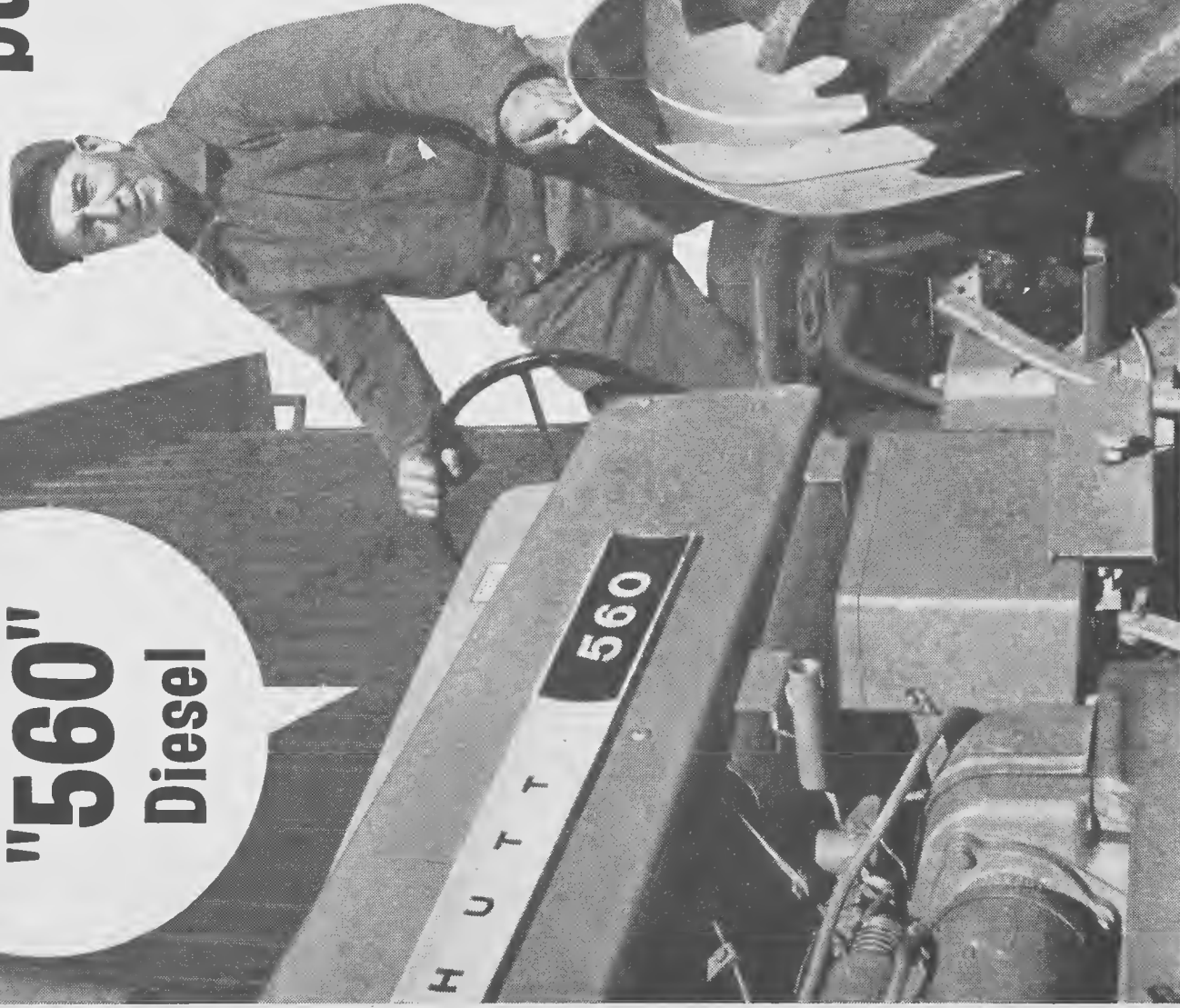


Clifford Faint, Horniugs Mills, Ont., receiving an award of merit on being declared Canada's first "Master Seed Potato Grower." The presentation was made by Dr. C. D. Graham (right), Ontario's Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

[O.A.C. photo]

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This record for top economy is further proof that fuel dollars go farther in a "560" . . . proof that Cockshutt again leads the way in giving you your money's worth in a modern tractor.

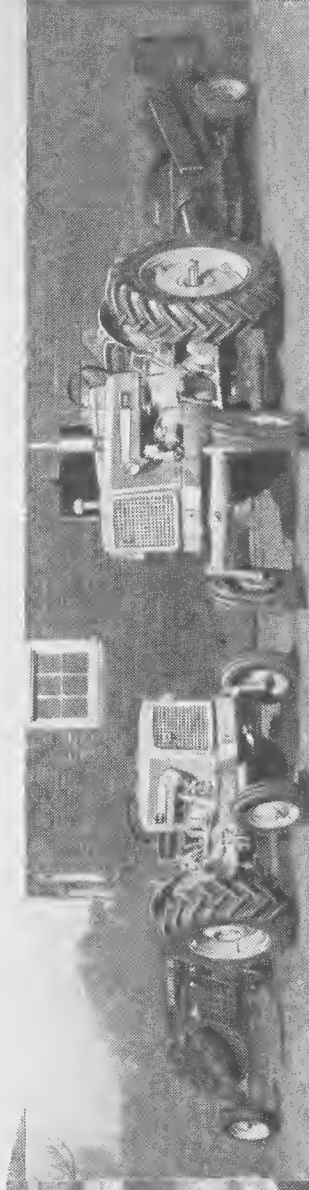
Cockshutt was first to put modern direct fuel-injection engines in 4-cylinder (Cockshutt "560") and 6-cylinder (Cockshutt "570") diesel tractors. . . engines that squeeze the most power from every drop of fuel, give quick starts even in "zero" weather. These and other improvements — like the sleek, modern styling by America's foremost industrial designer; the easy-riding "Torsion-glide" seat; the faster starting, greater power of 12-volt electrical system — give you a tractor that won't take a back seat to any other on the market.

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New Champ in Action — Low fuel consumption is just one of the many advantages of the "560". The powerful engine develops more power than ever before* — is a real lugger in tough ground. A feather-light touch turns the wheel with Cockshutt's perfected optional power steering. Gears made with even more precision than automotive gears shift smoothly through 6 speeds forward, 2 reverse.

*Tests show "560" engine develops over 50 hp on the belt and over 46 h.p. on the drawbar.



Put a pair in your barnyard — Pair up the Cockshutt "560" with the Cockshutt "540" utility tractor and get the advantage of two-tractor farming with low operating costs. Make up lost time in a hurry when weather delays planting or harvesting.



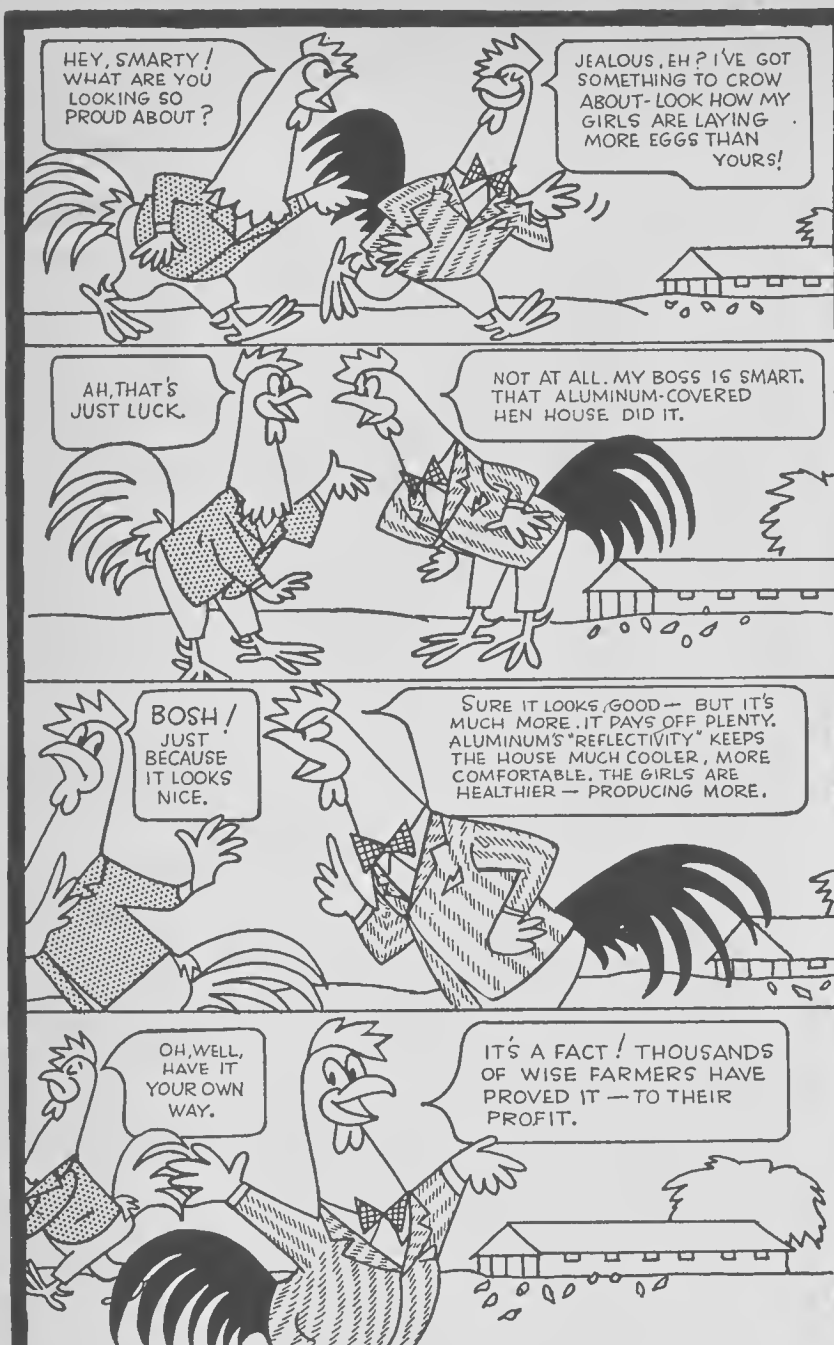
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GUIDEPOSTS

UP-TO-DATE FARM MARKET FORECASTS

WHEAT ACREAGE, having declined from a peak of 26.2 million acres in 1952 to a 20.9 million acre low in 1958, appears to be heading up again by some 1.8 million acres. More empty bins and extra summerfallow are encouraging the trend.

WHEAT MARKETINGS now exceeding those of a year ago and should continue to do so this year. If your delivery point is on a so-called limited quota and you have extra wheat, be sure to apply for an extra quota. A good crop this year could plug elevators again.

FLAXSEED MARKETINGS, after a slow fall and winter, have responded quickly to better prices and open roads. A major reason for recent price boost was U.S. Government decision to hold stocks until this year's crop prospects are assessed. Farmers there may reduce plantings only 10 per cent and Canadian farmers expect to hold last year's acreage.

SKIM MILK POWDER OUTPUT still soaring and posing surplus disposal problems. Cheese-making is also increasing, particularly in Quebec. Improved technology, better cows and ample feed will probably push milk per cow still higher.

MARGARINE OUTPUT now somewhat lower than a year ago, although consumption increased in 1958. Of interest to rapeseed growers is substantial amount of this oil being used for margarine and shortening. As of March 1 farmers intended to decrease rapeseed acreage 38 per cent, reflecting poorer prices.

BUTTER PRODUCTION continues upward trend, though at a greatly reduced rate. Stocks now stand some 15 per cent above five-year average, and with seasonal high production months ahead this could spell a butter problem this fall.

CATTLE PRICES showing normal seasonal trends after being distorted by big U.S. restocking program. Expect some wavering at peak for the next year. Too rapid expansion of cow numbers in U.S. could mean price collapse in two or three years.

PORK STORAGE STOCKS were some three times greater this March 1 than a year earlier. With beef prices high, pork consumption is increasing.

NEW U.S. PRICE SUPPORTS for feed grains and oilseeds are all at lower levels and this will make stiffer competition in world markets this fall. Samples of national average 1959 farm support levels per bushel (with 1958 levels in brackets) are: rye 90¢ (\$1.10); oats 50¢ (61¢); barley 77¢ (93¢); grain sorghums 76¢ (91¢); soybeans \$1.85 (\$2.09); and flaxseed \$2.38 (\$2.78).

OAT ACREAGE likely to increase, especially in Saskatchewan where heavy live-stock feeding and relatively short crops have cleaned out supplies. Farm supplies of barley are considerably larger.

What Farm Organizations Are Doing

IFUC SUPPORTS MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Agriculture Minister Harkness' announcement in the House of Commons that the government is changing its price support policy for hogs by withdrawing price support prices from commercial firms, and instead will make deficiency payments to individual farmers, was welcomed by A. P. Gleave, president of the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union and chairman of the Interprovincial Farm Union Council.

"I am very happy that Mr. Harkness and the Government have come around to our point of view that a farm stabilization program should be designed to assist farmers on family-sized farms and not bolster the operations of large feed companies, processors or retailing chains," the farm union leader said. "He will have our hearty support in implementing this kind of policy."

The price used to calculate deficiency payments, of course must be high enough to cover costs of production and give a fair return on labor and investment, Mr. Gleave said.

Mr. Gleave said the farm unions, as the only farm organizations proposing deficiency payments "across the board for all farm commodities to be supported," had a "hard time" convincing the Government that this was the best method of helping maintain farm families on their own land, while at the same time benefitting consumers by lower market prices; but "apparently we succeeded."

In its annual presentation to the Federal government on February 16, the IFUC had pointed out that "national farm policies should be used to reverse the trend toward excessive concentration of holdings" by making direct payments to individual farmers on a basic unit of their production, Mr. Gleave said.

"We have always emphasized that we do not want deficiency payments made on the whole volume of any one commodity," Mr. Gleave stated. "This would merely boost production and speed up the trend toward fewer and bigger farms."

He quoted from the IFUC brief: "There can be no defense of large public payments to individuals or corporations. The purpose of these payments is to extend justice to farmers, and not to enrich anyone. Farm policies should protect the family farm." V

CFA CALLS FOR TARIFF AND TAX CHANGES

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, in a brief to Finance Minister Donald Fleming, have called for amendments to the Customs Tariff and Excise Tax Act, which would exempt a considerable number of goods farmers have to purchase from import duty and sales tax.

The presentation indicated that since May 1944, when provision was made for duty-free entry of agricultural implements and machinery, the Government of Canada has followed a policy of progressively extending the

application of the principle that, to the maximum possible extent, goods entering into farmers' costs of production should enter Canada duty free. The CFA also pointed out that there has been a progressive exemption from sales tax of such goods, in line with what farm organizations believe to be a sound principle.

The CFA requested that the following lists of goods, and classes of goods, which are purchased for production purposes by farmers, be made exempt from duty and sales tax by proper amendment: wire fencing and steel fence posts; metal poultry and hog feeders, water troughs and drinking fountains, metal egg laying nests, and wire egg baskets; metal bins for storing hay, silage and grain, perforated metal flooring for grain drying, and sheet metal roofing for farm buildings; beekeepers' supplies; electric fences and electric water pail heaters; pumps for irrigation and drainage; steel stanchions; portable and stationary scales for weighing livestock; soil excavating and transporting scoops for use on tractors; farm wagons, trailers and sleds; vitamins, antibiotics and chemicals for both direct medication or when used in commercially prepared feeds, regardless of whether or not they are made in Canada; antibiotics and drugs for veterinary use; engines and motors when for farm use in the operation of machinery and equipment. V

FUA EVALUATES DELEGATION TO OTTAWA

The Farmers' Union of Alberta executive met in mid-March to, among other things, evaluate the effects of sending a mass delegation to Ottawa to press for deficiency payments on grain.

It was unanimously agreed that from a publicity point of view, the delegation was an unqualified success. Certainly very few happenings in a year rated the number of press, radio, and television people that covered the presentation to the Government. Most of the publicity was good. While some of it was antagonistic, certainly all of it admired the conduct of the delegation.

It was not expected that the Prime Minister would be able to give an answer to the delegation immediately. He stated that the Government would give the matter "continuing consideration." He also said that he was glad that "his colleagues had an opportunity to hear first hand from the farmers." He "welcomed an opportunity to discuss the problems with an open mind."

Mr. Diefenbaker stated firmly that he would not tamper with the "Crow's Nest Pass Rates." He said "there can be no prosperity in Canada unless Agriculture is maintained on a sound basis." He was, however, rather non-committal about deficiency payments, and still favored acreage payments as a means of getting cash into the farmers' hands.

Mr. Diefenbaker made special reference to the fact that maladjustments (Please turn to page 102)

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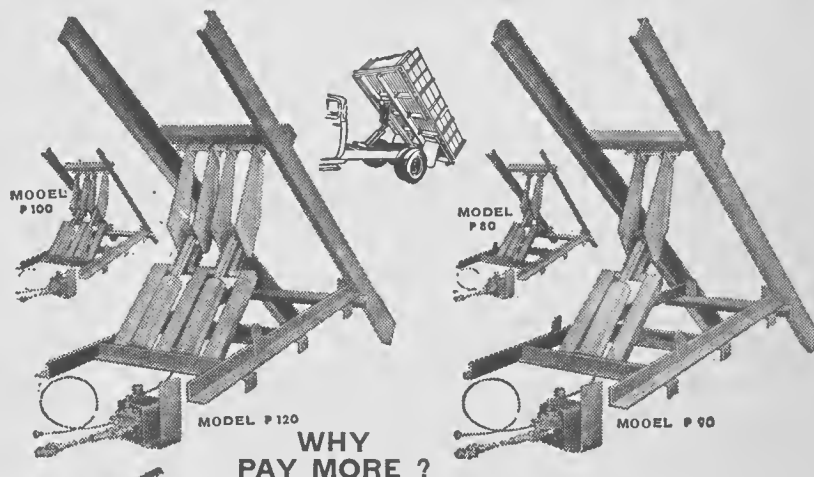
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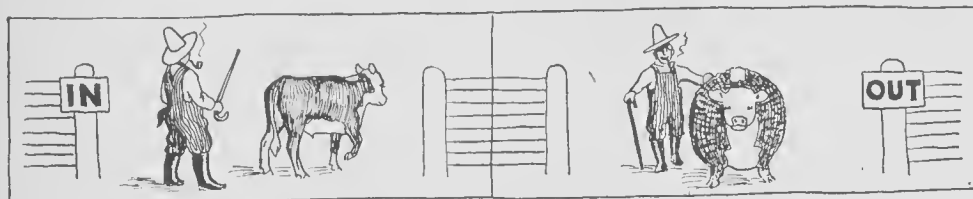
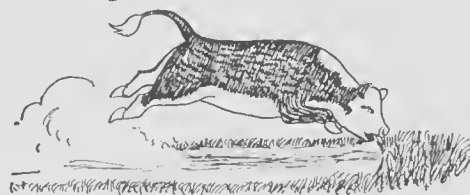
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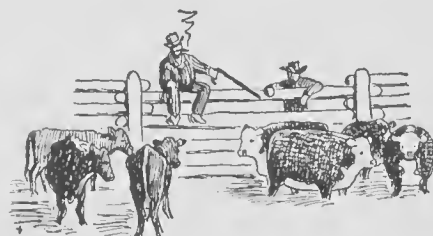
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NEWEST FARM LABOR SAVER—

Handling Feed in Bulk

by **DON BARON**

NOW that dairy farmer Ron Packham has a new stanchion stable equipped with a mechanical gutter cleaner, he is handling 40 milking Holsteins as easily as he used to look after a herd of half the size. "The toughest job left," he says, "is carrying bags of feed around the stable." He is making plans to eliminate that job too.

In fact, handling feed may be the next job to become mechanized on his, and other farms across the country. The highly specialized poultry industry has shown the way by swinging over almost entirely to bulk handling. Packham has already located plans for feed bins to be built into his stable. He is pressing his feed dealer to get equipped with a modest-sized bulk delivery truck. And that dealer, Bill Copeland, at Smithville, Ont., along with plenty of others who have big bulk trucks on the road hauling 9- to 10-ton loads direct from the central feed mill to specialized poultry operators, is figuring out some way to provide local farmers like Packham with the same service.

It will call for a smaller delivery truck, and for overhead bins where the dealer can store a variety of feeds. (It wouldn't pay the dealer to haul small loads right from the central feed mill.) As part of his expansion, Copeland is installing the overhead bins. He thinks he has found the answer to the small delivery truck, too.

Copeland paid a visit to feed mill operator W. J. "Dutch" Heaslip, who pioneered the idea of handling small lots of feed in bulk at his Nelles Corners, Ont., mill 3 years ago. Heaslip, whose feed and farm supplies business has been growing in leaps and bounds, equipped one building with 18 overhead bins, where he keeps on tap a variety of prepared feeds in mash, crumbles, or pellet form. These can be augered directly into a truck without being bagged. He mounted an especially made bin onto an old pickup truck, equipped it with an auger unloader, and that truck has been busy 6 days a week making up to 6 trips a day ever since. It delivers 2 tons or so of feed at a time to farmers within a 25-mile radius.

It's a truck of a hundred uses. Some farmers have it pick up their own grain at the farm, haul it to the mill where it is ground and mixed with concentrate, and then delivered back to the farm. Others dump off their own grain at the mill to be ground, mixed and delivered back in bulk in the feed mill truck. Some order fully prepared feeds. Some order concentrates and mix their own rations.

Customers like Emory Sutor at Cayuga, who has feed for 300 hogs

delivered twice a week, are finding that two big savings go along with the system:

- There are no bags to handle.
- They get a cash discount for buying in bulk.

"Such a truck," says feedman Copeland, "is just what I need too."

HEASLIP isn't the only mill operator who has made a start in bulk handling for small customers. The Thamesville Co-operative bought a blower which attaches onto its truck. Feed is still hauled in bags, but the bags are dumped off the truck and blown directly into feed bins at the farm.

Feedman Jack Peart of Brampton Milling and Farm Supply Co. Ltd. is offering his customers direct delivery from the central feed mill, in lots of as little as 3 tons, with corresponding price savings. He equipped a 9-ton delivery truck with 3 compartments, boasts that he can unload the entire 9 tons in 30 minutes. "How long would it take to unload 180 bags by hand?" he asks. As he sees it, most farmers simply can't afford not to swing over to some form of bulk hauling now. "I can blow feed 70' straight up with my equipment. I can blow it around corners. In fact, I can put it just about any place in the barn so long as we have pipes. Dairy, hog and beef men are making more and more use of the system."

One feed mill at Komoka, Ont., in addition to its poultry bulk deliveries, is delivering in bulk to local hog producers too. Its customers have a total of 1,600 hogs on feed. One of them has gone all the way in eliminating feed handling—he installed a mechanical feeding system.

Feed dealer Walter Lawson at Georgetown, has a particularly good bulk handling set-up, with overhead bin capacity of 50 tons and a 1-ton truck with a bin mounted on the platform. This truck is equipped with an auger unloader driven from a power take-off, which will move feed 14½ feet into the air. Lawson is delivering lots of about 1½ tons to dairy and hog men as well as poultrymen. He says, "Many of our customers take delivery once a week, so as long as they have 2½ or 3 tons storage capacity, they always have fresh feed. Our bulk feed operation is built around that little truck, and more and more farmers are turning away from bag delivery in favor of it."

TO see just how bulk delivery is turning out for farmers, The Country Guide visited several who are using the system.

Hog producer Lloyd Conliffe's 250-hog open front barn at Kent Bridge

(Please turn to page 100)

Feed dealers are equipping to deliver feed in 2- or 3-ton lots to dairy, beef, hog and poultry farms at lower cost

Truck Is Loaded by An Overhead Auger at The Mill



[Guide photos]



Then Bulk Feed Is Unloaded Mechanically At Farms

Here Feed Is Drawn Direct from Hopper in Laying House



Self-Feeders In Hog Pens Filled Twice A Week With Blower

CREDIT



A stairwell in the floor of a loft is boxed in to prevent accidental falls.



Counterweights on animal squeeze are closed off so they can't hit anyone.



Hay chute in loft is boxed. Owner once fell down open chute and broke a rib.



["Guide photos"] "No smoking" signs displayed prominently outside and inside the barn.

Cliff Faulknor asks:

WHAT IS YOUR FARM'S S.Q.?

Figure your own farm's "safety quotient" by checking the 42 hazards mentioned in this article

FARMING is a dangerous business. In 1955, more U.S. citizens were killed while employed in farm work than in any other major industry, and 1,100,000 more suffered some sort of farm injury during the same period. The biggest killer was motor vehicles. But the leading source of all injuries was falling — unscheduled journeys into thin air caused by something in front of a person that shouldn't be there, or something which should be there and isn't.

Through the co-operation of a western Canadian farmer, The Country Guide was able to conduct a spot safety check on an actual farm. The place visited was a better-than-average operation where a lot of thought is given to safety.

WE asked the owner something about how he handles his animals and power-driven equipment, but first, here is what we found by inspecting the farmyard, buildings, equipment and electrical circuits:

1. Ladders and steps were well built and kept in good repair.

2. Ladder, stairway and hay chute openings were boxed in. (The owner once broke a rib falling through an open hole in the loft.)

3. No loose material was stored overhead in the barn.

4. A catwalk to service blowers located about 30 feet above the loft floor had a stout handrail.

5. The loft was well ventilated and well lighted, with switches located on the floor below.

6. Exposed light bulbs were protected with guards to prevent damage by animals or human carelessness.

7. All electric circuits were equipped with proper fuses or circuit breakers.

8. Heat lamps in the hog farrowing pens were over 18" above the floor, with protective wire netting to keep them from falling and setting fire to the bedding.

9. No tractors or other equipment were stored in the barn.

10. "No Smoking" signs were displayed inside as well as at each barn entrance.

11. Buildings were protected with approved lightning rods, and metal parts were properly grounded.

12. No loose boards with jutting nails were found inside, or in the yard. (Two of the farm's

hired men were injured this way in the past, and had to be taken to town for medical attention.)

13. Wells and cisterns were completely covered so that small children could not fall into them.

14. The farmyard was clear of tools, forks and rubbish. No rubbish was piled against the barn.

15. Corral fences, gates and livestock chutes were in excellent repair.

16. Oil and gasoline supplies were stored well away from other buildings.

17. Counterweights operating gates of an animal squeeze were boxed in so they wouldn't hit anyone as they plunged up and down.

18. Every tool had a definite place when not in use, and hammer and axe heads were secure.

But • There were no long ladders handy in case of fire, and all fire extinguishers were kept in the house.

• An overhead garage door which had a broken spring was propped in the open position with a stick—like a booby trap.

• The catwalk up near the apex of the barn roof, mentioned earlier, had a couple of loose floor boards. (You might need that handrail.)

(Please turn to page 96)

DEBIT



Overhead door with a broken spring is propped up with stick like bird trap.



Part of tractor power take-off is uncovered and can catch loose clothing.



A protective grid on open end of this auger could prevent risk of injuries.

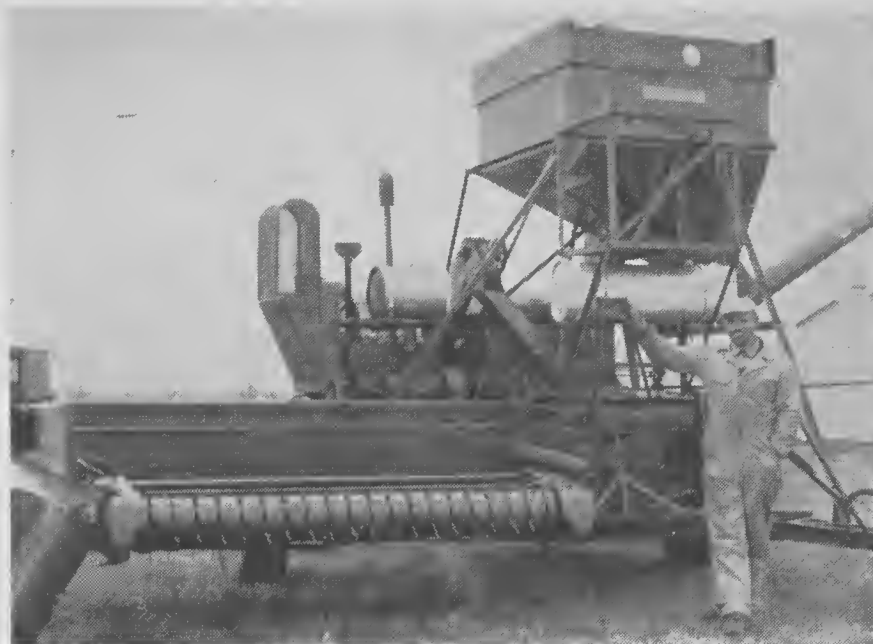


Here are two dangerously loose boards on the catwalk located over the loft.

Man in the "Squeeze"

Much has been said by many for or against the straight grain grower. Here is the way one of them regards the situation

by **RICHARD COBB**



[Guide photos]
Gilbert Pearson alongside the used combine he bought for \$1,000 last year and fixed up as good as new for only \$300. He expects it to last for 10 years.

ACCORDING to Gilbert Pearson, the straight grain grower in Western Canada faces three major difficulties. These are the selling price of grain, especially wheat at normal quota levels; the cost of machinery he must buy and maintain to do his job efficiently; and, the threat of dry years.

About 12 years ago, Gilbert bought his farm on the Regina Plains, a few miles south of the city, where grain growing is a tradition based on the simple fact that soil and climate are better suited to cereals than any other type of farming. He owns a section and a quarter, with a house and trim set of buildings erected by himself.

At first, he grew little else but wheat, but went into malting barley in 1948, and now has barley, flax and durum wheat, with wheat still the main crop.

On the price of wheat he has this to say: "I would take \$1 a bushel if I could sell all I could grow. These days I'm averaging \$1.25 a bushel, but under the quota system I reckon I need to average at least \$1.40 to \$1.50 at the farm to be on a sound basis.

Gilbert Pearson is not crying the blues. He is a resourceful and independently-minded farmer who knows that it's wise to keep a close watch on his costs, no matter what the market offers him in return. His answer to the high cost of equipment is to buy used machines and fix them up. He says frankly he would not have been able to buy all of his equipment new—it would have cost him \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Typical of the kind of deal he has made is the used combine he picked up last year for \$1,000 and rebuilt at a cost of \$300, expecting to get about 10 years of use from it. He also has a tractor, 18' disk, rod weeder, harrow, packer, swather, truck and cultivator. Of these, only the tractor was new when he bought it.

Does a man need all this machinery? Gilbert says he certainly does if he is to do the job properly without hired help, and with just occasional assistance from his 16-year-old son George. The large disk, for instance, is needed to make the most of his own manpower and to get the work done at the right time.

Considering the state of the grain market and the cost of buying and maintaining essential equipment, Gil-

bert reckons a man needs not less than a section to make a living as a grain grower. He owns his section and a quarter, but thinks that the man who rents, or has a mortgage to pay off, is in an even tighter squeeze than himself. In that situation he would need probably to turn to livestock of some sort, and perhaps work a smaller acreage.

CARRYING livestock on a Regina Plains farm is not altogether satisfactory. For one thing, much of the land is too expensive to be economical for pasture and forage crops. Some have overcome the difficulty by sending their stock to community pastures, and those with good-sized barns have gone into feeder cattle in winter. For himself, Gilbert Pearson had 13 years' experience with poultry and other livestock with his father, and can see no advantage in going back to them on his particular farm.

Overshadowing his plans is the threat of dry years. Last year would have come close to a severe drought, except for some sub-soil moisture reserves in the heavier Regina soil. Summer rains arrived too late to help, but Gilbert had 20 bushels of Selkirk wheat per acre on summerfallow, and 8 bushels on stubble.

Well aware of the drought danger, Gilbert has stopped using his one-way disk on stubble, be-

cause it has chopped the straw too fine and exposed the soil to the risk of blowing. So now he uses a cultivator more, and a rod weeder on his summerfallow, and conserves all the straw he possibly can keep close to the surface. A good stubble holds precious snow on the land for moisture in the spring. However, he believes he may go further than that and switch to a half crop, so he can devote more effort toward conserving soil and moisture.

Gilbert experimented with a packer last year. It probably gave him a more even germination, and replaced the harrow, which broke up the straw too much. He liked the result and says he plans to do it again, especially where he's seeding into heavy straw.

PEARSON'S main weed problems are wild oats, Canada thistle and sow thistle. He tries to delay seeding until May 1 or 8, if possible, to control the first growth of wild oats by seeding with the disk. Doing these two jobs at one time is faster and more economical.

For Canada thistle and sow thistle control, he has a lot of faith in cultivating or rodweeding as late in the fall as possible, before frost kills off the top growth. He also keeps his summerfallow black all season to discourage the weeds. Early seeding is another partial answer to thistle control, but he has to compromise on account of the wild oats.

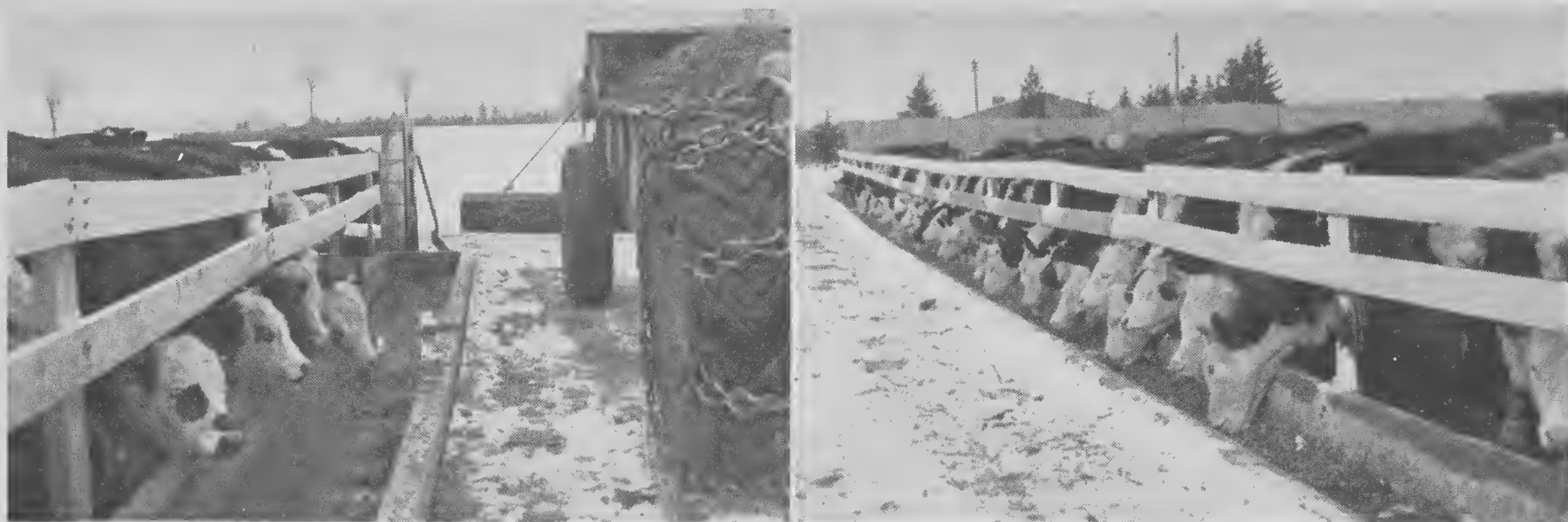
Gilbert never sprays the thistles, but has used 2,4-D dust on wild mustard, which has become quite rare since this treatment. He has always liked the dust because it's easier to handle than the liquid, and it cuts out the need to haul water, and enables him to go three times faster than he could with a sprayer. However, he thinks that dust may not be so effective for controlling weeds other than mustard.

He used 11-48-0 fertilizer for a number of years, but when the price got up to \$120 a ton, he doubted that it could compensate him for the slight increase in yield, especially with so much unsold grain. He thinks it could be beneficial on high spots in the fields, where more leaching occurs, but the general fertility of his land does not appear to have slipped very noticeably after more than 50 years of cultivation. Eventually, fer-



Using the rod weeder for cultivation late in the fall to control thistles.

(Please turn to page 98)



A tractor-mounted front-end loader is used to fill this power-box feeder which, in turn, spreads the feed along the course of the fence-row mangers. Corn silage is the basis of this low-cost beef feeding operation. One man can feed 275 steers in 3 hours a day. This pole barn feedlot holds 150 head.

Corn Silage — Will It Revolutionize Beef Production?

BEEF is the only product George Robertson sells. The entire output from his 175-acre farm at Goderich, in Ontario's Huron County, is fed through beef calves. He measures the results in pounds of beef per acre. And after only 5 years on his present program, he has overshot his original goal of 500 pounds of beef to the acre by 200 pounds. He sold over 60 tons of beef worth over \$25,000 last year. He figures his entire production cost was 14 cents a pound. No wonder he figures he can compete in producing beef with anybody anywhere in the country.

Most beef men, and farm extension specialists too, have been painting a gloomy picture of the outlook for beef production in Ontario. Old-fashioned, mixed beef farms have been going by the board ever since the price collapse in 1951. Many cattlemen, after calculating for the first time how much grain steers actually eat in the feedlot, have decided they can't make money with beef cattle. They have turned to dairy cattle to increase their income, or to pigs, which give cheaper gains on grain.

But not George Robertson. He admits that Alberta feedlot men don't have to pay transportation on their feeds; that they can buy their grain at a discount. But the basis of his confidence is a single crop—probably the most overlooked crop in the province—corn. And since almost a third of the total feed value of a corn crop is in the stalks and leaves, he stores the entire crop in silos. "Why waste the extra nutrients?" he asks. He grows 80 acres of corn. He ripens it well to get the full value of the grain. Then he ensiles it for a 10 months feeding program.

IT was half a decade ago when he took the plunge into beef cattle. He had a dairy herd then, and grew 60 acres of grain corn as a cash crop. He found that he couldn't compete in the production of feed grains with the cash-cropping areas of Essex and Kent Counties, with the U.S. corn belt, or with the Prairies. So he lined up a beef program. He is now feeding 275 calves a year, and he calculates his total costs to be 14 cents per pound of beef produced. This includes all of his costs of running the farm, except a labor wage for himself. It covers interest on his invested money; depreciation on farm machinery; wages to a hired man; and other operating expenses.

George Robertson uses corn silage to produce beef for 14 cents per pound. He is currently getting 700 pounds of beef to the acre

He is confident, too, that he can further boost the 700 pounds of beef per acre to half a ton. No wonder he believes that Ontario could well become another corn belt, producing beef just as cheaply as any place on the continent.

The past few years have been ones of trouble and change for beef men. Feeder prices have been

didn't produce enough feed as grass silage, and that too much grain had to be purchased to turn it into a good fattening ration.

Then he found in a textbook that the cheapest beef gains of all could be made with corn silage. He tried it, and agrees wholeheartedly now.

SOME other cattlemen are taking a new look at corn too. Don Waters ensiled 160 acres of it last fall for his huge Parkhill feedlot, where 600 steers are normally on feed at one time.

Nutritionists for more than one feed company have been insisting for years that corn must be the basis of a beef feeding operation. Some have been finding in their own feeding trials that corn is the basis of cheap beef production. Strangely, one feed company salesman in corn-growing southwestern Ontario says: "Even in my own area, where farmers know the value of corn, most of them pick and crib the grain. They could get a third more feed per acre by putting the entire crop, stalk and all, into the silo."

Dr. D. N. Huntley of the Field Husbandry Department, Ontario Agricultural College, says that a good grower on good land in a good area, can grow 20 tons of corn silage to the acre (matching some of Robertson's best yields), which will contain 6,000 pounds of total digestible nutrients. No other crop will produce that many nutrients from an acre of land, he states. And such yields are being obtained regularly right across Ontario, from the Ottawa Valley, through to Grey and Bruce Counties.

WHY hasn't the idea caught on before now across the province? According to Robertson, the time is now ripe for such a swing to corn. Early maturing hybrids, that will ripen in the shorter-season areas, are available. Machinery that will handle it is available too. And the idea enables a farmer to specialize in a single crop, and greatly reduce the variety of equipment he must buy for his farm.

The other big advantage—and it's not one to be overlooked, he insists—is the good life that goes with beef feeding. One hired man and himself are never overworked with these cattle. In the winter, one man can feed and bed the 275 steers in 3 hours a day, and look after other odd chores too. For 2 months of the year, there is no stock on the farm at all.

Robertson's farm has a well-drained clay soil, with a gravel subsoil. His cropping program goes like this. His best fields are in a 4-year rotation consisting of 2 years corn, (Please turn to page 68)



[Guide photos] George Robertson, pictured here with his father, claims corn is the most overlooked crop in Ontario.

pushed up and transportation rates have climbed. It became apparent that the old margin-feeding business was dead. The new challenge was to produce gains at a lower cost than the selling price of the fattened cattle. Yet when cattle were fed at government stations under a heavy grain and a hay feeding program (the system used by many farmers across the province) the cost of feed alone, although varying, was at least 20 cents per pound of gain. It went as high as 33 cents.

Many cattlemen turned to intensive grassland farming. Yet Robertson found that his acreage

by **DON BARON**

How John Wilson Succeeds With Sheep

A little extra effort is his recipe for a return of at least \$100 per acre

by INA BRUNS



John Wilson with a sturdy two-week-old lamb, which shows why breeders come miles for the Glenwood foundation stock.

IN successful sheep production it's the little things that make the big difference," says John Wilson of Innisfail, Alta., whose flock of registered Corriedales have been making such dramatic impacts at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair each year.

"I'm sure no farm animal pays higher dividends for that little extra effort that adds up to good management plus. Our sheep are returning at least \$100 annually on every acre that supports them. The wool easily covers the feed cost."

After having a look at Glenwood Farm while the Wilsons were in the midst of January lambing, we came to the conclusion that much of John's success has come not only from attention to details, but from his attitude toward the business. Most sheepmen expect, for instance, that they will lose a number of lambs—that such losses are a part of the business risk and little can be done about it. Mr. Wilson believes nothing of the kind! He prepares his ewes to turn in a superb performance and he goes into lambing expecting to save every one of those youngsters or know the reason why! Last year he did just that. The year before he had his 81st lamb before one failed to respond to his best efforts.

"There's no money in dead lambs," he says simply.

JOHNS has the same attitude toward disease. Most breeders consider sheep prone to disease and they expect considerable loss in that department. The Wilsons expect their ewes to go to market after 13 or 14 years of productive life. He expects his carefully selected rams to procreate their kind for as long as 9 years! He also expects a high percentage of twins. When one breeder complained



The Wilsons feel that sheep farming is providing a pleasant mode of living for them at Innisfail.

that his Corriedales were not twin producers, John bought back the 20 ewes that had produced only 19 lambs, and, the next year, he got 36 lambs from 19 of them! His star producer has had three sets of twins, and three sets of triplets in the past 6 years. By "grafting" the extra lambs on foster mothers, all were raised.

"The twinning ability of ewes may be fortuitous as some experts say, but I go along with the other

school of thought that believes a ewe that has put on at least 7 extra pounds is more likely to produce twins. It is a known fact, of course, that 78 per cent of twins are born during the first half of the lambing season."

Whether his theory of extra feed for extra lambs is right or wrong, John gets his share of twins. Experts rate the Corriedales with a lamb crop of only 125 per cent, but John boosts it to 160 per cent.

Most breeders feel that building a healthy flock goes back to the care of the pregnant ewe, but John believes it goes back to the condition of the soil on which the feed is produced. "If the land can't produce forage rich in such important minerals as calcium and phosphorus, there isn't too much a breeder can do to compensate for such shortages. Sheep won't do well on low, marshy land either."

The Wilsons have kept their 472 acres of chocolate loam virile and productive by crop rotation and the use of both commercial and natural fertilizers. An abundance of brome-alfalfa hay is grown, and every effort is made to put it up in the prime of condition. John credits the high quality green alfalfa hay with his freedom from trouble with the faulty-diet diseases such as dysentery, stiff lamb disease, pregnancy disease and lack of general thrift. He finds little trouble from internal parasites when he moves his flock to new pastures every 2 weeks. Since sheep prefer short, sweet pastures to overgrown ones, he has four main grazing areas for the ewes as well as smaller lots for the rams.

He believes too much is said about using sheep for scavenger grazers on summerfallow or stubble. "Nothing makes better use of good pasture than sheep. I give them the best it is possible to produce."

With the brome-alfalfa pasture goes a creek that supplies the fresh water that is so important. Iodized salt is kept before them at all times.

IN August the ewes that are to lamb in January are turned into a field of Dwarf Essex rape for flushing. To prevent scouring or bloat, oats are seeded with the rape. When the ewes are in prime condition, the ram, wearing color marker, is turned in.

The pregnant ewes are never fed green oats, oat bundles, or silage or anything that might produce flabby, weak lambs. They are fed brome-alfalfa hay if the pasture is short, and 2 weeks before lambing they get a pound of whole oats. If there is any doubt about hay quality, they get molasses.

Since the problem of hired help has cut the Wilsons' flock of 300 to only 50 ewes this past year, John does not find the (Please turn to page 99)



Some Corriedale ewes waiting for admittance to the lambing barn. John Wilson thinks that a few extra pounds on his ewes will increase their chances of twinning, and obtains a lamb crop of 160 per cent.

What's New In Weed Control

Our field editors report the latest information on experimental and recommended weed control chemicals for various parts of Canada

Report from Eastern Canada

YOU'LL find store shelves stocked with more herbicides than ever this year. Old standbys like 2,4-D or MCPA will be side by side with newcomers like 2,4-DB. New uses will be recommended for some of the older chemicals too. But old or new, all of these chemicals, and the recommendations going along with them, are designed with one purpose in view—to enable you to combat weeds more effectively, get higher yields and more profits from every crop acre this summer.

Grassland enthusiasts will find 2,4-DB one of the most useful of the new ones. It controls weeds in new seedings of legumes. Farmers with a Canada thistle problem will find a recommendation this year to start a 3-year program with 2,4-D or MCPA to kill the weed outright. Amino triazole is recommended for control of milkweed. And if you are battling chickweed in your lawn, two new herbicides, silvex and neburon, are recommended to clean it up. A post-emergent application of amine dinitro is recommended for control of weeds in soybeans, and at the Ontario Agricultural College, this was successfully tied in with a new growing technique. Solid plantings of the beans were made, instead of row plantings. The herbicide was used and the crop grown successfully without cultivation. It outyielded beans grown in the normal manner.

THE above chemicals are ready for on-the-farm use now. Several new promising ones are just around the corner. A chemical that will control weeds in sugar beets is being developed. It will enable growers to completely mechanize the growing of this high value crop, because monogerm seed and precision planters have already advanced from the laboratory to the farm.

New and still more effective pre-emergents than simazin for corn are being readied by herbicide specialists. For weed control in potatoes, mixtures of herbicides are giving promising results. In fact, it all adds up to a bright picture for herbicide control of weeds. But Prof. George Jones of the Ontario Agricultural College sounds a word of caution.

"This is the year to look closely at chemical weed control," he says. "You'll probably be using more chemicals this year, and still more next year, than ever. They are wonderful aids to weed control. But they do not represent a substitute for good farming. You'll notice that most of the new herbicides are more expensive than the old favorite, 2,4-D. They require more precise application too. So long as a drop of 2,4-D got on a mustard plant, the plant would curl up and die. But hit and miss application isn't good enough any more."

Professor Jones concludes: "Don't forget to figure your costs closely this year. Be precise with your applications. Be sure you get your money's worth."

Here are a few of the developments to watch for this year:

Legume Seedlings. If you have a stand high in red clover, MCPB is recommended. For pure stands

of birdsfoot trefoil or alfalfa, seeded without a nurse crop, 1 lb. of 2,4-DB should knock out the broad-leaved weeds. In fact, 2,4-DB is safe on all clovers, but there is one drawback—it costs money. Professor Jones estimates the cost of 2,4-D to cover an acre would be about 50 cents, while the cost of 2,4-DB would be nearly \$3.50.

Corn. Simazin is the one to use again this year. This pre-emergent, which was so widely used commercially for the first time last year with spotty results, shouldn't be discarded. Unusual conditions caused some failures, but it did a good job for many growers too. Dr. Jim Hay of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, explains that no pre-emergent could work successfully under conditions which prevailed in some areas last year. He was referring in particular to those areas where the topsoil with the herbicides in it, dried out and blew away. Last year's experience did point up the fact that pre-emergents, which kill the seeds as they germinate, must have a fine seedbed and that

Report from Western Canada

THE rapid development of new herbicides before many of the old ones have been properly tested has led the western section of the National Weed Committee to rule that future recommendations will carry a "trial use" section. This has been done with some success in the United States. It is felt that farmers who have a crop they despair of might use one of these "trial" chemicals as a last hope before plowing the crop under as a dead loss. By widening the scope of herbicide testing in this manner, many promising chemicals might be retained that would otherwise be lost.

As one company official put it, when introducing some "hot" new weedicides that will bid for registration this year, "These chemicals have been developed to replace others which haven't even been registered yet."

Some Interesting New Weedicides

I. S847—Experimental

The big news in chemical weed control this year is a new experimental herbicide, S847, which may prove to be that long-awaited miracle—a special wild oat killer. S847 will undergo testing at three prairie points during 1959, and might be ready for registration in both the U.S. and Canada by 1960, if tests prove successful.

The chemical is very selective, attacking members of the oat family. Tests to date indicate it can be safely used on wheat, flax, barley, sunflower and most other grains, as well as on sugar beets and various vegetable crops. Although crop growth is generally inhibited to a small degree, recovery is much more rapid than that of the wild oat plant.

A post-emergence herbicide, S847 is best applied when wild oats are 4 to 6 inches high (1½ to 2½

plenty of water should be used with them—say 20 to 30 gallons per acre.

Professor Jones suggests that corn growers consider band application of simazin this year. Two or three weeds per foot of row can reduce corn yields by 15 to 30 per cent. A band of simazin over the row can control these weeds, eliminate the need to hoe, allow cultivation between the rows, and reduce per acre costs. Professor Jones mounted a sprayer right on a planter and sprayed a 12" band over each row. Rows were 40" apart. He used half the normal amount of chemical per acre.

Canada Thistle. Line up a program to spray with 2,4-D or MCPA every year for 3 years. This should reduce the weed by at least 95 per cent. There is help this year for growers of canning peas in areas like the Maritimes where the use of MCPA is hazardous in controlling Canada thistle. The National Weed Committee recommends the sodium salt of MCPB be used in such cases.

Twitch Grass. Professor Jones has had success with one treatment, but it costs about \$30 per acre. It calls for application of 6 to 8 pounds of amino triazole on the twitch in early spring. Then, the land should be worked up, planted to corn, and 4 pounds of simazin used as a pre-emergent to finish the job. Alternatives are summerfallowing, or spot treatments of the worst areas with amino triazole in the spring, or dalapon in the fall.

Milkweed. Amino triazole at 3 to 6 pounds per acre gives good control as a spot treatment. Grasses and legumes contacted will be injured.

Chickweed in Lawns. The chemical 2,4-D hasn't done the job in the past. This year, neburon or silvex are being recommended. Two applications may be required.

Grass Control Around Fruit Trees. Use dalapon or amino triazole around the base of apple or pear trees (but not stone-fruit trees like peaches) to keep grass down and help control mice damage.

Soybeans. Two to four quarts of amine dinitro (cost —\$3 to \$6 per acre) as an early post-emergent spray will give good control of both annual and broad-leaved weeds and grasses.—D.R.B. V

leaf stage). The recommended rate of application will probably be under 1 pound per acre in a solution of about 10 gallons of water.

It can also be used as a pre-emergence weed killer, but dosages needed for effective control would have to be many times greater. Chemically, the compound belongs to the carbamate group. At the present time it is only available to state, provincial or federal experimental workers for further research and testing.

2. FB-2—Experimental

This is a fast-acting, non-selective herbicide which shows promise as a controller of roadside weeds. It has been called a "chemical mower." The first samples of FB-2 were tested in Canada just over a year ago. Other tests conducted in the northern United States and Canada indicate that about 2 pounds of the chemical in solution will kill just about all grass and broad-leaved weeds to soil level. Because broad-leaved species recover much slower than the grasses, this herbicide encourages the development of all-grass roadsides.

It is quick and spectacular in action—grasses and weeds become "scorched" within 6 hours of treatment, "scorching" is complete within 2 days and continues to show for about a month afterward. The chemical is non-volatile, non-corrosive, and odorless. It has a low order of toxicity for both men and animals, and, because it is absorbed by plants immediately after contact, leaves no active residue. The fact that FB-2 doesn't attack the roots of a plant makes it an excellent potato top killer, as well as a weed controller in irrigation ditches where soil erosion is a factor.

3. Atrazine—Experimental

Belonging to the triazine series of herbicides of which simazin is the forerunner, atrazine appears effective for both pre-emergence and post-emergence use in corn. It is similar to simazin in selectivity, but can be (Please turn to page 66)



Dr. Gordon Hobbs, Lethbridge, examines pod formation on the alfalfa seed crop.

by **CLIFF FAULKNER**

THE alfalfa seed grower can have a thumb as green as a shamrock, have lots of working capital, be blessed with abundant rain and sunshine, yet never get a crop worth harvesting. For the success of his enterprise depends on a strange partnership with a tiny, wilderness-dwelling insect called the leafcutter bee—a rugged individualist with a single-tracked, pollen-pickin' mind who holds the key to alfalfa seed production.

Like the clovers, alfalfa needs to be cross-pollinated to produce a good crop of seed. Although it's possible for alfalfa flowers to be self-pollinated, seed yields are very unsatisfactory this way because the plants are generally self-sterile. Cross-pollination produces up to seven times more seed than self-pollination, and this can only be accomplished by bees foraging for nectar and pollen. This, you might say, gives the insect a sort of closed shop agreement with the seed grower.

Unlike the clovers, however, alfalfa can't be pollinated properly by honeybees, or even bumblebees, which range freely through the heavily cultivated areas. They have to have the leafcutter bee—and therein lies the problem. For the leafcutter is a wild bee in every sense of the word, and it aims to keep things that way.

LEAF CUTTERS live and work alone instead of in colonies like most other bees, and this independence is extended to their nesting and eating habits. They bore or dig solitary tunnels into rotted wood, or under tufts of native grass to lay their eggs in, which means they can only be found along the fringes of settlement. Although the leafcutter prefers alfalfa pollen to any other brand, it won't travel very far to get it. The hapless seed grower has no choice but to move his fields to wild bee country.

The trouble lies in the unique mechanism of the alfalfa blossom itself. Entomologist Dr. Gordon Hobbs, Lethbridge Experimental Farm, who has long studied the leafcutter in its natural habitat, explains it this way:

"The alfalfa flower is constructed differently from that of any legume. Here the male and female parts are held under tension by the petals which form the "keel" of the flower. When a bee lights on the blossom, the restraining petals are parted, thus releasing the sexual column. This springs forward and violently strikes the underside of the bee (leafcutters carry pollen on the underside of their abdomens instead of in baskets on their legs, as other bees do), and thereby picks up the pollen it needs for fertilization.

Partners in Production

This is a leafcutter bee photographed just at the moment it was tripping the alfalfa flower.



[Lethbridge Exp. Farm photos]

For pollinating our alfalfa crops we may always have to bring the field to the wild bees

Some Do's and Don'ts for alfalfa seed growers:

- Don't assume your crop is being pollinated just because you see a lot of bees in the field. They must be leafcutters; bumblebees and honeybees aren't effective pollinators.
- Don't have your fields too wide—long, narrow strips are best. Leafcutter bees have a short flight range and will only pollinate the edges of a broad field.
- Locate your fields close to waste land where the bees can find nesting sites. Leafcutters prefer a natural habitat.
- Destroy competing wild flowers, such as fireweed, but leave brush and weed piles around the field edges. Leafcutters like to nest in rotted logs and decaying vegetation.
- Learn to recognize the pollinator's insect enemies and how to control them. These enemies cut down the wild bee population.
- If the season is early, clip your crop when the plants are small so as to delay maturity. Alfalfa blooming should coincide with the main flight period of the leafcutters in your area.

"Honeybees don't like this floral booby trap one bit. Sometimes they have to put up quite a struggle to free their tongues which are often caught by the striking action of the flower's sexual column. It doesn't take them long to find out that they can bypass this gadget, and gather alfalfa nectar by poking their tongues in at the side of the blossom, between the wing petal and standard. This is satisfying enough to the honeybee, but doesn't pollinate much alfalfa."



In this cell, the leafcutter's eggs were sealed up with a store of pollen to feed developing larvae.

Friend bumblebee isn't much better either. Although it does manage to trip a few alfalfa flowers now and then because of its size and clumsiness, the bumblebee is chiefly a nectar gatherer, and it's pollen collectors that are needed to cross-pollinate alfalfa. When either honeybees or bumblebees have a choice between clover and alfalfa, they always settle on clover. The only way the alfalfa seed grower could use these bees effectively would be to destroy all competing growth within their flight range, which is impossible to do in a cultivated area.

THE clover seed man has no such problem. For one thing, it's impossible for a bee to collect either pollen or nectar *without* cross-pollinating clover. Male and female parts of a clover blossom lie between the fused petals which form the keel of the flower. When a questing bee puts its tongue in the throat of a blossom, the keel is pushed back so the tongue accidentally touches the stamens and stigma as it feels around for nectar. As the tongue is drawn out, the keel moves slowly forward until it hides the sexual column again. There is no violent movement to startle the bee, and no lusty slap on the you-know-what to offend its dignity.

Another advantage the clover grower has is that his "partners" can muster a much bigger working force than the leafcutter bee can. Honeybees spend the winter in colonies and are able to build up large broods for quick release in the spring, which means they can get there "quickest with the mostest." Bumblebees overwinter as fertilized queens, and build homes where they raise new broods for the nectar-foraging task ahead.

BUT, what the leafcutter lacks in numbers it makes up by sheer industry and intestinal fortitude. It takes the thwack on the underside without alarm or resentment, and goes on gathering pollen. Luckily for the seed grower, the insect has its natural yen for alfalfa pollen, and doesn't intend to let any pugilistic pistil dissuade it. Incidentally, any time you see a leafcutter at work you can assume it's a "her." Although males occasionally trip alfalfa flowers, they don't dig tunnels, make leaf cuttings, or gather pollen to stock cells with.

The female bee builds her home in those tunnels she makes in fallen logs, or old tree stumps, or brush piles. Out on the edge of the prairie she has to rely on grass clumps, weed piles or shrubs. The only thing that beats her is too much civilization. During her adult life she makes about 15 cells which she fashions out of leaf cuttings—hence the name, leafcutter.

How does she go about this? Well, first she picks out a healthy-looking (Please turn to page 74)

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Some Ideas for the Orchard

that can win customers, cut costs

by DON BARON



NEW AND TREE-RIPENED

SELL your entire crop through roadside stands and you'll soon find out what consumers look for when buying fresh fruit. Grant Fox, who grows 200 acres of peaches in his orchards at Leamington and Normandale, Ont., does just that. He has been called the country's "Peach King."

Grant cites two keys to quality—"Grow new and better varieties, and then ripen them right on the bough for the best flavor." Fox's foreman, Ottmar Lanrus (above) is examining the fruit on a young Rich Haven tree, one of 20 varieties on trial in the orchard. None of Fox's peach crop goes into cold storage. Lanrus explains, "We irrigate the orchard as the fruit ripens, to be sure the peaches size up sufficiently, and take on their full flavor."

BREEZY PACKING SHED

HEALTHIER peaches, happier workers—you'll find them in the packing shed of growers Marvin and Jack Ferguson at St. Catharines, Ont. Temperature is 10° cooler in this inexpensive pole-type shed, than in the orchard. A refrigerated storage room at the end enables them to hold onto canning fruit during periods of glut. The Ferguson shed is pictured below.



POWER FORK, PALLETS

THEY make lighter work of handling fruit in the Jordan, Ont., orchard of Erland Troup. He built this self-propelled fork himself, and uses it to speed ripening and help control rot. He moves baskets into the packing shed in rainy weather, then back outside when the sun shines.

Troup used an old rear end from a British-made car (because it is



narrow), installed both a Chevrolet and a reversing transmission. He modified the fork lift to fit the used hydraulic system he had, and powered the car with an 8 h.p. gasoline engine off an irrigation pump.

EXTEND SELLING SEASON



BEAMSVILLE, Ont., grower Joe Stewart relies on his cold storage to extend the season. "My dealer knows now he can be sure my fruit is high in quality. This may not bring me higher prices, but it does enable me to sell more fruit." He moves fruit

from the packing shed to 18' by 24' storage room, using pallets and mechanical lift. Stewart has a 30-acre orchard.

CHEMICAL THINNING



"YOUR personality is at the bottom of every basket you pack," maintains Jordan grower Joc Wismer. He used chemical thinning on some peach varieties (like this Envoy tree) to reduce his costs, and to be sure he had big luscious fruit for the bottom layers as well as the top.

EYE-CATCHING PACKAGES



THIS 6-quart cardboard container is ably aided by pretty Eva Heath in displaying tree-ripened peaches. Norfolk County growers John Balthes and G. P. Gorman are trying out this new pack, which is cheaper than baskets. "It is better looking too," says Gorman.

NOVELTY ITEMS



NECTARINES are an unusual fruit, resulting from a cross between a peach and a plum. They have a smooth skin and white flesh, but the taste is reminiscent of the peach parent. Extension specialist Bob Wilcox of Vineland Horticultural Station examines some fruit on a demonstration tree at the station. It is highly susceptible to rot when grown in some localities.



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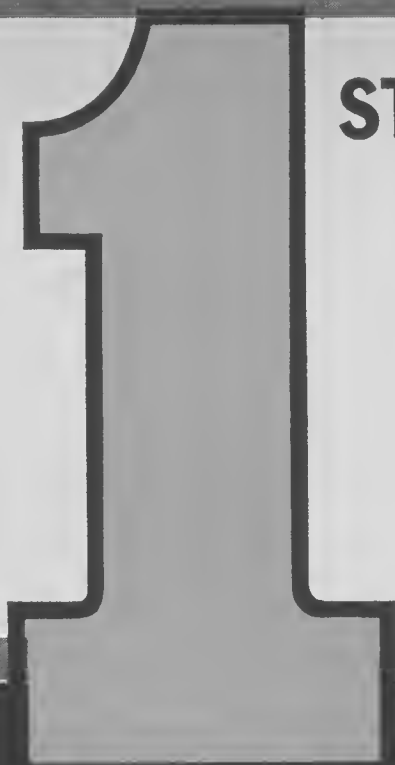
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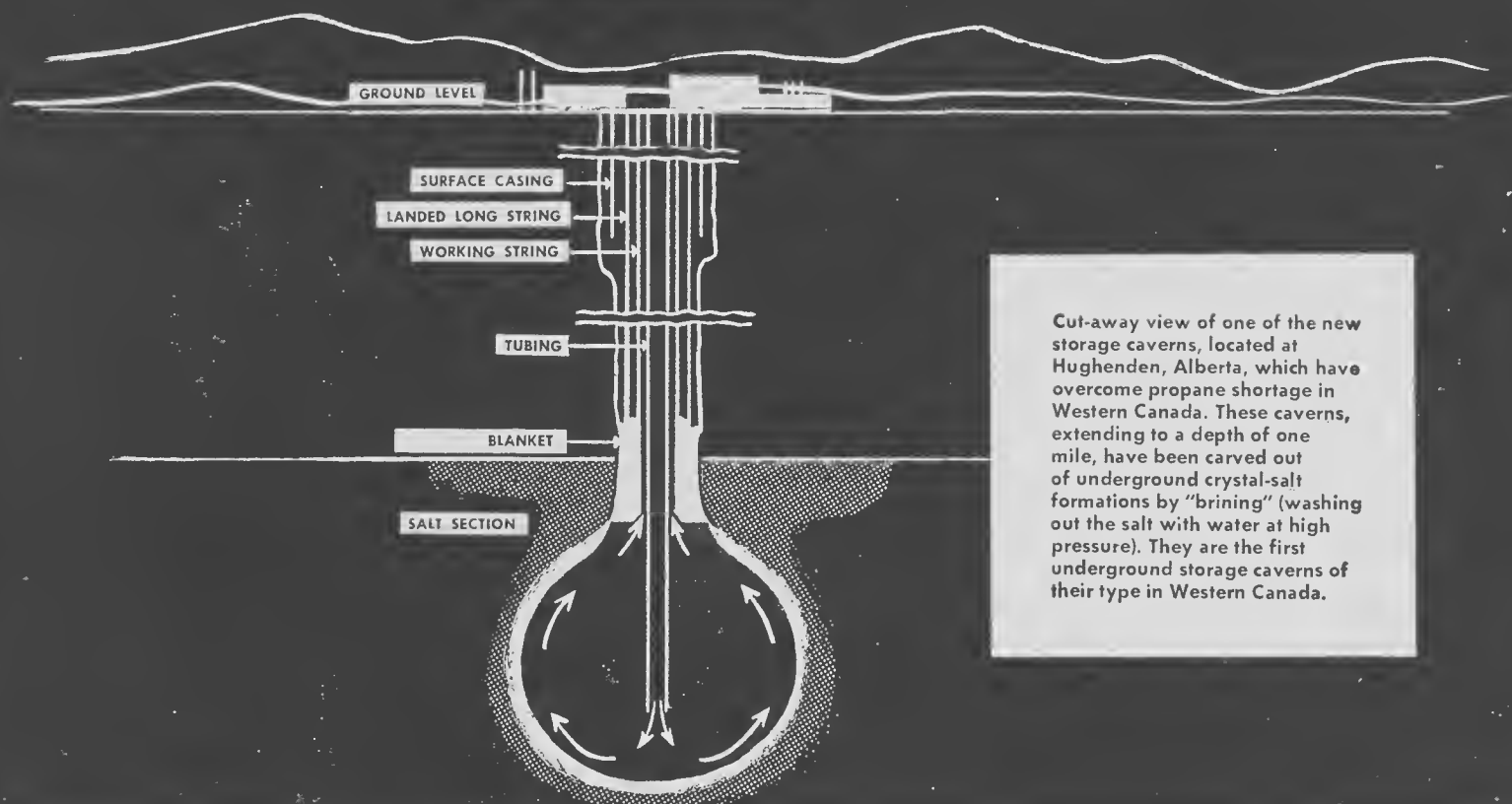
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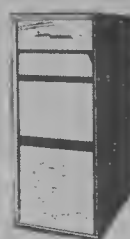
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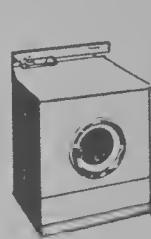
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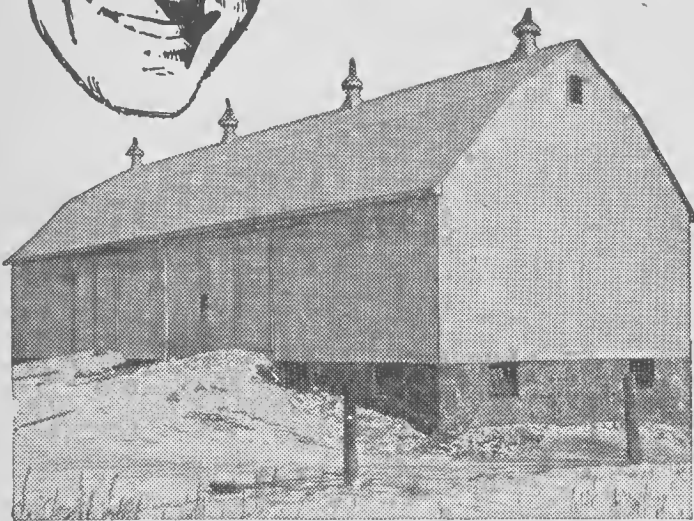
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R1-8

Through Field and Wood

by CLARENCE TILLENIUS—No. 7



ONE day near evening I was climbing over a heavily treed jackpine ridge when in the forest ahead there was a sudden loud crack, like a rifle shot. I had not expected anyone to be hunting in these lonely woods, and the thought was not welcome. However, as I hurried up over the rocky ridge I saw water gleaming through the tree trunks. The golden sunset reflections in the water were broken by a long line of silver and blue ripples and suddenly there was again a loud crack and a splash. Now I understood. Beavers! This was their pond, and something was disturbing them—perhaps a wolf or lynx.

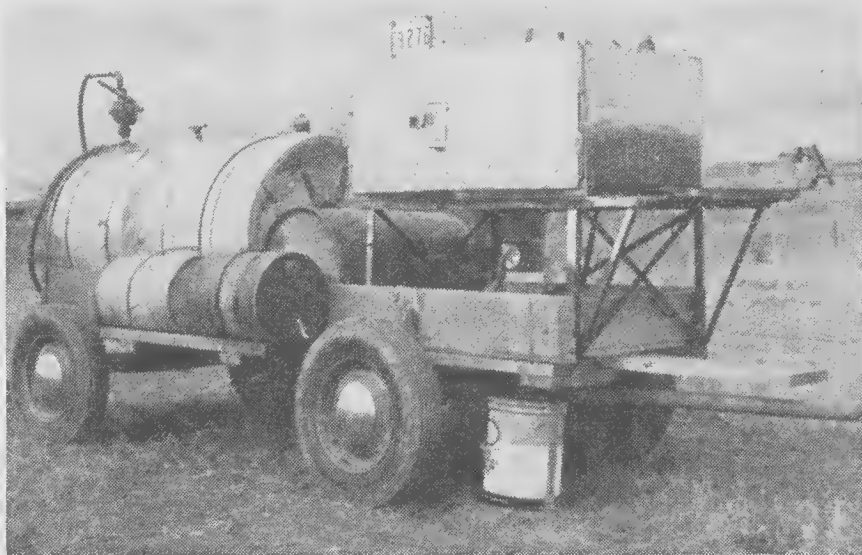
When beavers throw a big dam across a stream, word seems to get around to all the forest dwellers. By the time the dam is solidly settled and firm, it has become a highway for all the animals that come that way. A beaver dam with its inevitable pond is the real "crossroads village" of the

forest. The beavers themselves are so interesting to watch, one could spend days and weeks spying on their workings alone, but in addition a great many of the forest animals seem drawn there as to a magnet.

To the pond at dawn and dusk come deer and moose, sometimes perhaps even the rare caribou or elk. From time to time, a wolf may come trotting over the dam, a coyote or fox. Often a bulky black bear strolls leisurely across, or perhaps a porcupine with his humped-up shuffling gait. Other water animals, mink, otter and muskrat, come too, as well as impudent red squirrels and tiny woodmice. No, life is never dull around a beaver pond. You have only to approach unseen and find a hiding place from which, yourself hidden, you can watch what goes on. If there is a wind, it must blow from the pond to you. V

Garage on Wheels

SERVICING machines in the field can save a lot of time and money. Because much of his land is located about 17 miles away from his home farm, Verne Downey of Gull Lake, Sask., has built himself this mobile unit, equipped with gas and oil supplies, tools for field repairs, and a vise. V



[Guide photo

That 'model home' look with Dominion Linoleum

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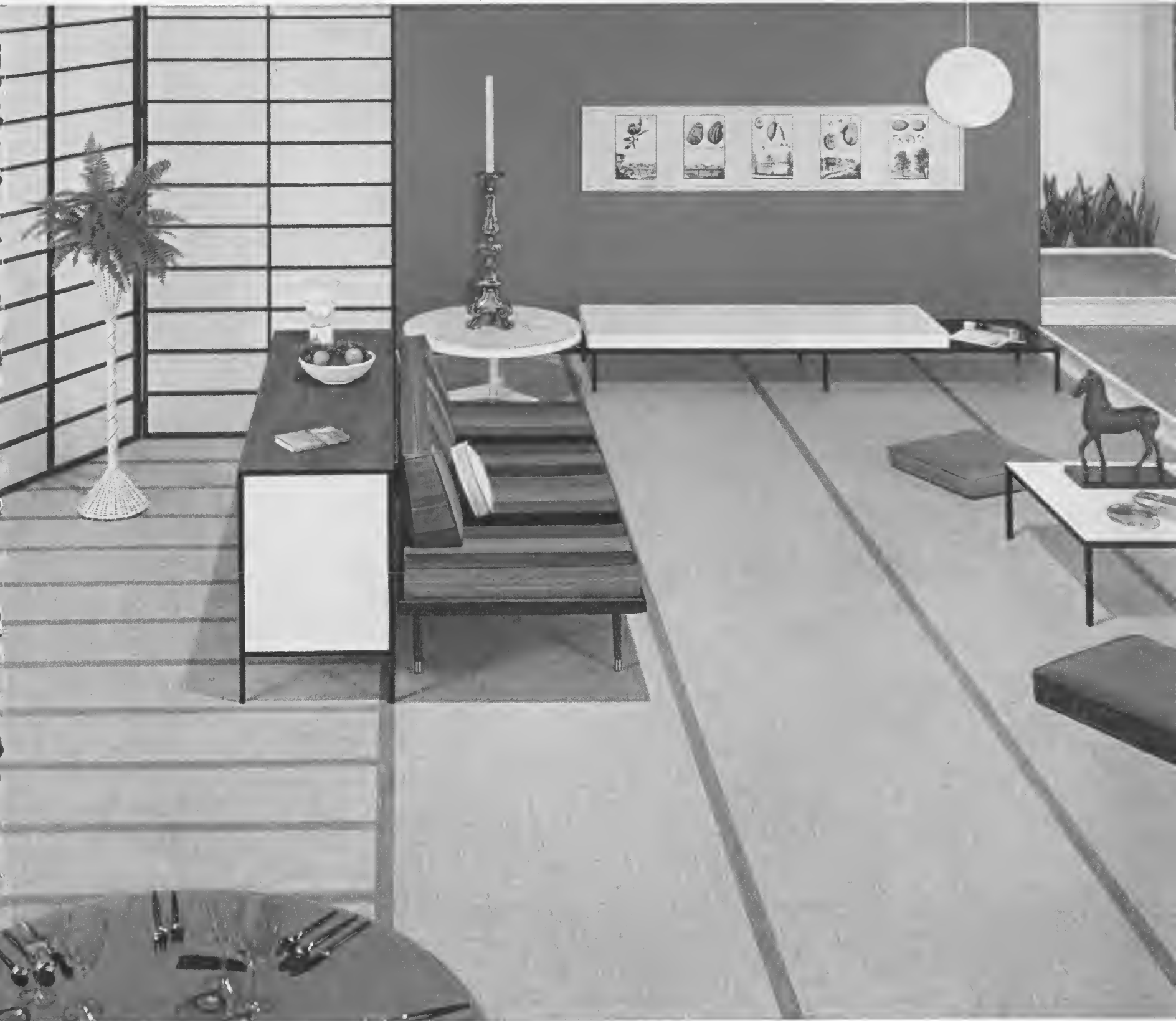
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He Was Called Oscar, the Redoubtable

by SYLVIA BROECKEL

THOSE who have raised turkeys by the sitting-hen method have probably had cause to deplore the stupidity of the turkey as a mother. We ventured into the turkey business during World War II, when the urge to produce more food was high. Although there were innumerable other farm chores, this one was taken in stride with a spark of patriotism. We bought a sitting turkey with 20 eggs and made a nest in an unused grain bin. Surprisingly she did not seem to mind the move from a straw stack, which had been her choice for a sitting place.

Her great love was eggs. Just as long as they were smooth and dry beneath her breast she was content, but as soon as the shells started to crack she developed an intense hatred for the damp, little occupants and would claw them out of the nest with a vengeance. During the hatching period it kept me busy running back and forth rescuing the newly born and hurrying them to a warm place in the kitchen. Later that day other duties claimed my attention, and when I returned 2 hours afterward there was a little, wet turkey, stiff and cold, kicked out on the bare floor and dead by all appearances. I could have heartily kicked the smug derriere of its preoccupied mother, but controlled the impulse, wrapped the baby poult in flannel and put him into a warm oven. It wasn't long before he started to show signs of life, and when he began to chirp I named him Oscar.

He remained in the house long after the rest of the brood had been returned to their mother, who grudgingly accepted them when there were no more eggs. Oscar's bed consisted of a shoe box with a hot water bottle at the bottom, then layers of flannel-ette topped with a piece of woolly blanket. He would watch with one big eye as I got things ready, and he snuggled down when I tucked him in. He continued to do well after he joined the flock, because he would come to be fed, while his foolish mother would fill her crop and then

hustle off taking the other kids with her before they had time to eat.

By late fall of that year Oscar had developed into a majestic Narragansett gobbler with all the usual trimmings, of which he was very proud. When spring came we bought five new turkey hens and kept Oscar for a sire. However, as soon as his wives were isolated with their settings, he renewed his affection for me, following me everywhere and running to catch up if he got left behind.

EARLY one morning I tried to drive cattle to pasture, but had considerable trouble as the young stock tended to spread out and scatter. Finally I caught the oldest cow in the herd and started leading her. Glancing back after a few moments I saw the herd of 25 following in single file. Behind them plodded old Belle, the last of our farm horses, with four cats marching sedately at her heels. Added to the retinue were two orphan pigs trotting along to be counted in, and in the distant rear came Oscar, with wings spread and wattles swinging.

When Oscar's family arrived his attitude toward me changed completely. He would strut about possessively, helping to take care of the brood, but would have no truck with me or anyone else. Then, when one of the turkey hens went off to make a second nest, Oscar took complete charge. In no time most of the tiny males were strutting, making miniature fans with their tails and trying to imitate a gobble. It was too much when he started them roosting on a board fence, so I confined him in a hog crate. He sulked so long and sullenly, however, that he had to be released. He took up with the brood again and became fierce in his attachment. He weighed 35 pounds when we sold him that fall and he wound up on a Thanksgiving dinner table.

Said one who had partaken of the feast, "He had hams like a shoat, and never before have we had so much cold turkey to get rid of."

Cold turkey! That's the way Oscar started. His cycle was completed. V



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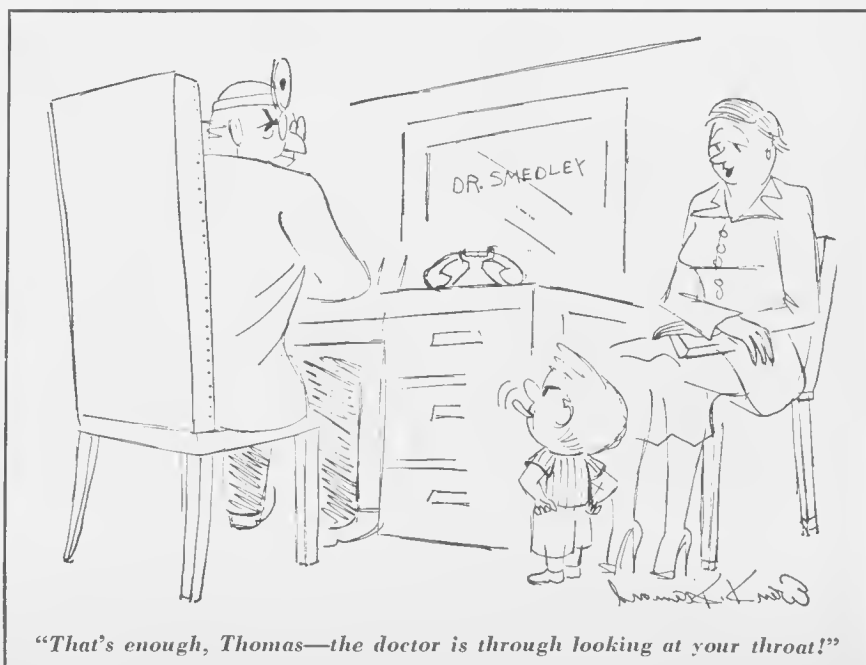


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*Stockmen look for more
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Charbray Crossbreds In Beef Yield Comparison

OUT west, stockmen are taking a long look at Charbray-Hereford crossbreds in their search for a feeder animal that will produce more beef per pound of feed. They want a steer with a longer body—one which will give more of the high-priced (loin) cuts. But the Charbray bull (about $\frac{5}{8}$ Charolais and $\frac{3}{8}$ Brahman)

is still an unknown quantity in this country. Will his offspring gain as fast and prove as hardy as the purebred Herefords during the rigorous Canadian winters?

To get some of these answers—and get them fast—a private steer feeding trial was held at Ralph Arrison's feedlot at Bassano, Alta. The trial was under the direction of XL Feeds Ltd. (Bassano), with the assistance from Lethbridge Experimental Farm in compilation of data. All the cattle came from R. P. Gilchrist's, Cypress Hills Cattle Company ranch south of Maple Creek, Sask., and went on feed right off their dams.

The number of animals starting the test was 50, including 25 Herefords and 25 Charbray-Hereford crossbreds. At the end of the 242-day feeding period, 24 Herefords and 21 crossbreds finished the test. One Hereford and one crossbred died of water belly, and three crossbreds were marketed before the end of the test because of other troubles. The results are shown in the table below.



[Guide photos

Wayne Malmberg ranch, Spring Coulee

	Hereford	Crossbred
Average starting weight	354.5 lb.	420.0 lb.
Average finishing weight	825.0 lb.	945.7 lb.
Average gain	471.5 lb.	525.7 lb.
Total feed consumed per head:		
Hay	1,080 lb.	1,176 lb.
Grain	3,146 lb.	3,600 lb.
Feed per lb. of gain:		
Hay	2.29 lb.	2.24 lb.
Grain	6.68 lb.	6.86 lb.
Average daily gain	1.95 lb.	2.17 lb.
Steers grading Choice	20 (83%)	13 (62%)
Steers grading Good	2 (8%)	*8 (38%)
Steers grading Standard	*1 (4%)	
Steers grading D1 (injured animal) ..	1 (4%)	
Average hot carcass weight	484.5 lb.	555.9 lb.
Average dressing percentage	59.4%	58.8%
Gross cash "take home" pay per head	\$169.94	\$194.82
Difference in favor of crossbreds		\$ 24.88

* Five animals graded down because of lack of conformation and finish



The picture shows a few of the "Charcross" calves on the Malmberg ranch.

Commenting on the results of this test, R. P. Gilchrist has this to say: "These crossbreds have some points that a commercial stockman can use to advantage."

A similar experiment is being conducted at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, under the direction of C. M. Williams, associate professor of animal husbandry, the results of which should be available by this spring. The Saskatoon test consists of 8 pens, each containing 5 animals. Four pens contain Herefords and Crossbreds with no shelter except an ordinary fence; in the other 4, the animals are sheltered in a shed made of baled straw. This is a special hardiness test which will be watched with interest by cattlemen all over Canada. ✓

New A.R. Rules for Swine

THERE are some major changes in Record of Performance tests for swine, including some shift of emphasis from carcass score to the economically important factors of feed utilization and age for weight.

The term "qualified for advanced registry" is discontinued. In its place there is now an average provided for each station or province based on age for weight, carcass score and feed utilization. The individual farmer or breeder is to decide the merits of a breeding pig, while the Canada Department of Agriculture limits its part to providing facts brought out by the tests.

There are further changes in the system of carcass scoring to place greater emphasis on desirable leanness. Certain factors, such as type and balance will be dropped, but points for area of loin and low back fat will be increased.

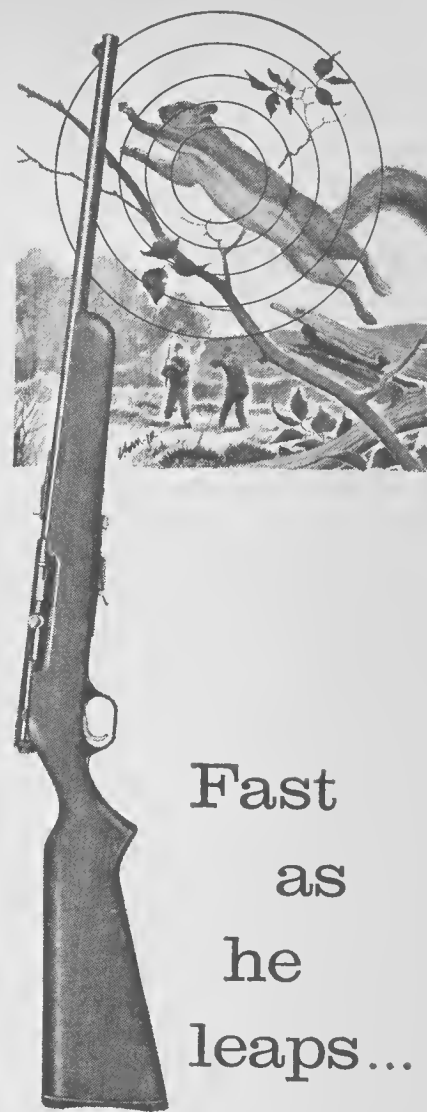
Aiming to have more direct representation for breeders on the advisory board, the department is asking each test station committee to appoint a breeder to the board. It will also include representatives of national breeder organizations.

These changes apply to all swine tested with groups farrowed after January 1 this year. ✓

Learn at Lambing Time

YOU can learn a lot about the flock at lambing time. Specialists at the North Dakota Agricultural College recommend that you mark the ewes that are poor milkers, ewes that are dry, and those refusing to claim their lambs. You then have a guide when it's time to cull.

Lambing is also the best time to mark the healthier twin lambs, enabling you to identify them later when selecting replacements. Research has shown that ewes born as twins have a slightly greater tendency to bear twins. This is important when you figure that a ewe with twins will wean more pounds of lamb than a ewe with a single lamb. ✓



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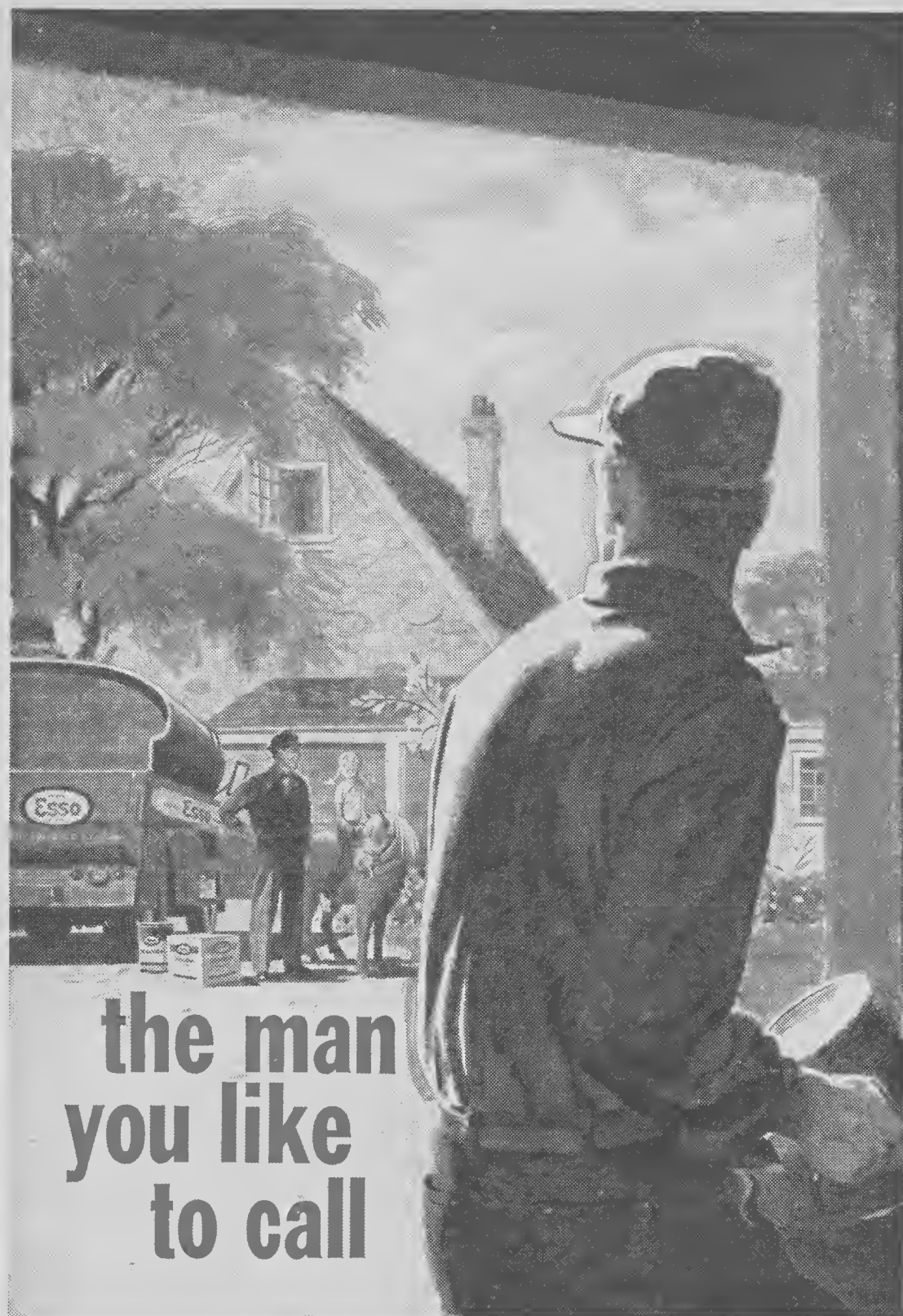
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LIVESTOCK

Stop Warbles In the Spring

SPRING is a good time to treat cattle for warble fly outbreaks with a wash or spray to kill the larvae on the backs of animals. The grubs appear at this time of year and can cause considerable loss and damage.

J. K. Riddell, livestock specialist with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, explains that the eggs are laid on the hairs of cattle during the summer, the larvae hatch and crawl to the base of the hairs, penetrate the skin and make their way through the tissues to the backs of the animals. The most common symptoms are swellings in the backs of cattle at this time of year, and these contain the warble grubs, which are the maggot or larvae stage of heelflies.

In small herds, says Mr. Riddell, treatment can be given by using a brush dipped in a wash and scrubbing the backs of animals well. An effective method for larger herds is to spray cattle in a chute with the same type of wash, preferably using a power sprayer developing 400 lb. pressure. Treatments should be repeated at monthly intervals until the swellings disappear.

Another treatment is with the systemics, known as Co-Ral and Trolene, which have proved their effectiveness in killing warble grubs. Co-Ral is a spray applied externally, also used for controlling lice, ticks and hornflies. Trolene is administered as a bolus in the animal's throat, and is also for stomach worms and some external parasites, such as lice. It is important to note that the systemic treatments are for the fall, with no further treatments after the end of November. The manufacturers' instructions should be followed very carefully. v

Why Inject Iron into Pigs?

IS the new injectable iron for pigs, known as iron-dextran, any better than the older methods for preventing anemia in baby pigs? It compares very well indeed, says H. Doornebal, who has been running tests at the Lacombe Experimental Farm, Alta.

He warns that it is important to see that the little pigs have enough iron from these injections. Each needs around 200 milligrams of iron during the first 3 weeks of life, but only a small amount is obtained from sow's milk. With 100 mg. of iron in a 2 c.c. injection, when pigs are 3 to 4 days old, followed by a 1 c.c. injection at 3 weeks of age, you have a satisfactory safeguard against anemia.

Injectable iron saves labor. With the old system, sows had to be cut in the fall, stored to prevent freezing, sprayed with iron sulphate and fed often. Even with iron sulphate paste, the need for frequent use took time.

Apart from saving time and labor, tests have shown that injected iron gave higher hemoglobin readings throughout the first 5 weeks than either sows or paste. Hemoglobin is the protein coloring matter of the red blood corpuscles, which conveys oxygen to the tissues. v

LIVESTOCK



[Guide photo]

Some of the sheep involved in the experiments with crossbreeding at Ottawa.

Western Ewes With Eastern Rams

EASTERN farmers who are bringing cast-off range ewes from the West to get a crop or two of market lambs from them, will probably get best results mating them to Leicester or North Country Cheviot rams. That is the word from Dr. G. M. Carman, of the Animal Husbandry Division, Central Experimental Farm, who has just completed cross-breeding trials using rams of various Down breeds on western ewes.

Lambs from the North Country Cheviot and the Leicester rams were outstanding, for they showed very low mortality, were particularly hardy, and produced more pounds of lamb per ewe than the other lambs, reports Dr. Carman. He says that with Shropshire, Hampshire and Oxford sires, lambs were big and dressed out good carcasses, but they carried excessive face cover. Southdowns and Suffolks had higher mortality rates than the others. The Southdowns took too long to get to market and finished at too light a weight.

In these trials, which covered a period of 3 years, they used 8 different rams of each breed, each purchased from a different breeder, and each group of rams was mated to a total of 75 to 80 ewes.—D.R.B. ✓

Spayed vs. Open Feeder Heifer Tests

THERE'S no advantage in spaying heifers for increased gains in the feedlot, according to tests at the University of Wyoming and the North Dakota Agricultural College.

At Dickinson, N.D., heifers spayed at 1 year of age gained slightly faster during fattening than those spayed at 3 months, but both open heifers and steers outgained them during the feeding period. The spayed heifer gains were also the most expensive of all lots, while steers made the cheapest and fastest gains. The finish of all lots of heifers was better than for steers.

In Wyoming, open heifers gained about 10 per cent faster than spayed heifers. There were only small dif-

ferences between open and spayed in dressing percentage, carcass measurement, muscle and backfat. They found no loin damage caused by spaying.

One advantage of spaying, not covered in the tests, is that it eliminates the chance of having bred heifers entering the feedlot and going to market heavy in calf. ✓

Grass Silage For Brood Sows

GRASS silage can be fed as part of a sow ration to provide bulk, and help maintain the sow in reasonably thrifty condition. However, the use of grass silage does not reduce the cost per lb. of gain below that of feeding a commercial sow ration.

In tests at the Ontario Agricultural College, in which gilts were fed for 112 days, those getting 30 per cent of their ration (on a dry matter basis) as grass silage did not gain as well as those being fed completely on chop, and they lacked the bloom. No significant differences were found in the number of pigs born, birth weights, and weights to weaning between the two groups. ✓

Blackleg Is Fast Killer

BLACKLEG, a troublesome disease of calves and young cattle during the pasture season, is spread through the soil by organisms which are capable of resisting extreme heat or freezing. It is an acute disease, and usually results in death within 48 hours. Affected animals tend to stand apart from the herd and are lame when forced to move. In the final stages, they lie flat on the ground and breathe with greater difficulty. It usually affects calves under a year old, but occasionally older animals are involved in blackleg outbreaks.

Because blackleg is similar to anthrax, which may be fatal to man, the Ontario Veterinary College recommends that a veterinarian be consulted for diagnosis and control measures. Dead animals should be burned or buried deeply in quicklime. A regular program of vaccination of young stock should be carried out on farms where there is a history of blackleg. ✓

For 1959

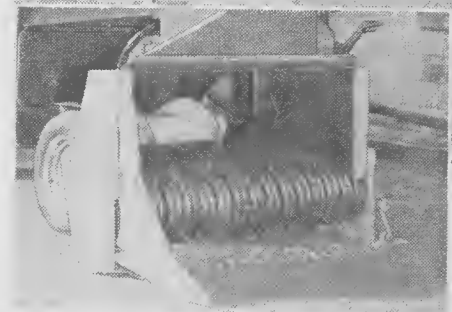
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LIVESTOCK

Dehorning Cattle on the Peigan

Story with pictures

by IRENE McCAUGHERTY



Eddie Ivins, well-known calf roper at rodeos, inoculates Peigan yearlings.

IN the spring, before green grass starts its growth, a 2-day session of dehorning cattle begins on the Peigan Indian Reserve in Alberta. The yearlings are worked into the corrals, and chutes, and the work begins. Blood-stop powder and pine tar to disinterest the fly are applied to the horn area after the short horn has been removed by an instrument known as a "gouger." On a more prominent horn, the dehorning saw is used, and many stock men prefer this method claiming that it seals the blood veins as it saws.

A feature that has made hornless cattle more popular is the penalty of \$2 a head charged for stock in the sale ring, or sold otherwise, if not dehorned. Purebred cattle are allowed through if papers are presented to establish their identity.

The Horned Cattle Purchase Act became law in Alberta due to the fact that bruised cattle were cutting the margin of profit. Much of the loss had to be absorbed by feeders and packing-houses. This Act went into effect in 1939 with \$1 being a penalty charge. The other provinces followed this legislation, British Columbia holding to the original charge, and the other three western provinces setting the \$2 penalty.

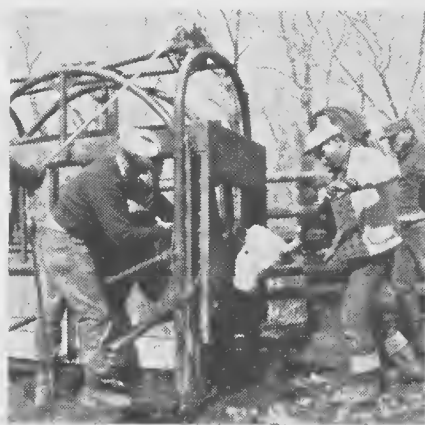
Some ranchers dehorn calves at branding time, cutting the horn off with a sharp bladed knife and applying caustic to stop further growth. Where circumstances permit, a dehorning paste can be applied to a calf's horn point before it pokes right through the skin.

A cowboy riding through calving stock will note the new born, dismount from his saddle horse and catch

the calf. From his pocket he produces a small container of paste and applies it to the horn area. One feature of this is the need to keep the calf away from the mother's udder until the paste dries.

In dehorning of cattle, the horn must be cut back far enough to contact skin that will grow and smother the horn growth. A poor job will bring a miserable curled horn which turns into the animal's cheek or temple, and the saw must be used to remove it.

No one enjoys this work, but like many jobs having to do with animal protection, dehorning is a necessity. Their vicious meat hooks are menace in the feedlot, corral, trucks, or elsewhere. When cattle first came into the country, the long Texas horns were a weapon of defence against the wolves or other wild animals that preyed on them. With the reduction of such ani-



Nelson Small Legs dehorns, helped by brother Bob, while Eddie inoculates.

mals, the cattle don't really need this protective measure.

Dehorning on the Peigan is a yearly event in their present form of working cattle.

Feed Steers Grain on Grass?

IF the results of a trial at the Ontario Agricultural College are an indication, it pays to feed grain to fattening steers on pasture. Two groups of seven steers each were used, and during the 90-day pasture period, one lot received grain free choice (eating 10 lb. per head per day), and the other received no grain.

The grain-fed group was allowed 3.6 acres of pasture, the other group 6 acres, and at the end of the period, all steers were sold for slaughter. The steers receiving grain gained 0.8 lb. more per day, sold for 6¢ per lb. extra and returned an additional \$325.

Hardware Disease

CATTLE have a habit of chewing and swallowing foreign objects such as wire, needles, nails, staples, and even pocket knives. This requires an operation as medical treatment is of little or no value. However, in advanced cases where the system has become poisoned (indicated by a fever) it is best to slaughter the affected animal as soon as possible.



Ken Kerr is tallying the books, with John No Chief reading out the brands.



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LIVESTOCK



[Guide photo]

These hogs, fed whole shelled corn, made rapid gains, graded 60 per cent A.

High Energy Rations for Pigs

HOG producers may be able to make more use of corn to get faster gains on market pigs, without greatly sacrificing carcass grades. That's the word from the Western Ontario Agricultural School at Ridgetown, where 90 pigs were fed out on a ration in which whole shelled corn was offered free choice as the only grain, along with a 36 per cent pelleted protein supplement, including minerals and antibiotics.

The pigs, which were fed out in pens in an open-fronted barn, averaged 62 lb. in weight at the beginning of the trial, and gained faster on the high-corn ration than pigs from the same herd fed normal rations. The rations they chose averaged at about 73 per cent corn and 27 per cent supplement, and the pigs were shipped at less than 6 months of age at an average of 202 lb. They graded 60 per

cent A carcasses, and 40 per cent B. Feed conversion was 3.03 lb. of corn and concentrate per lb. of live gain. In comparison, the swine that were fed regular Advanced Registry rations had a conversion of 3.3 lb. but produced 70 per cent A carcasses.

Scientist Jack Underwood, who along with E. L. Woodley did the work, concluded that it is possible for hog men who have good pigs to feed high energy rations of corn, and to get good feed conversion and moderately good grades. He warns that the Yorkshire herd at Ridgetown has been selected over a period of years to produce lean carcasses, while eating limited amounts of corn, so that results in other herds might not be completely comparable.

Mr. Underwood is carrying this experiment further at the farm, using complete rations, rather than giving the pigs a choice. He is aiming to discover the results of using higher energy rations on the raising of replacement stock.—D.R.B. V

His Angus Are Not Pampered

CLIFFE HORSMAN treats his registered Aberdeen-Angus as if they were commercial cattle, and makes a success of it on his farm at Indian Head, Sask. They are never in a barn at all, but go out on pasture all summer, and spend the winter in a bluff with a straw shelter. He also buys feeders, which are not necessarily Angus, whenever he considers he has enough feed for them and his 60 Angus.

Cliffe started his registered herd with a couple of good cows in 1940, and by 1958 had 25 registered cows and a bull. He has had no trouble finding buyers for 6 or 8 bulls a year, but sells females only occasionally because he wants to continue building his herd. Progress is slow, on account of careful selection, but his aim is to have 50 registered cows.

During the winter they all have access to hay in a self-feed rack, chop in a 40-foot trough, and plenty of oat straw for bedding. One man can look after them in an hour or two each day, and the heated water system takes care of itself.

Farming 2,000 acres, Cliffe Horsman had seeded about 800 acres to grain and forage last year. He puts up brome and alfalfa hay, supplemented with some "prairie wool." He had a reserve of 800 bales, which was a mighty useful insurance during last year's long dry spell. He also had 18,000 bushels of grain in store, and although it is costly to provide that amount of storage, he regards his stocks as a bank to be drawn upon as needed. "You never know," he says, "when a crop failure will come. I'd rather have too much grain than too little."—R.C. V



[Guide photo]

Cliffe Horsman checking on one of his Angus females that is out to pasture.

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Holsteins Do Well as Vealers

BECAUSE of their higher birth weight, and the fact that their carcasses are just about as good as those of crossbreds or beef Shorthorns, Holstein calves can be used to advantage for veal. That is the conclusion reached by Dr. G. M. Carman of the Animal Husbandry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, following trials with 135 calves.

Equal numbers of Holsteins, Shorthorns, and crossbreds between the two were used. The calves were purchased at birth from local farmers and were fed whole milk and grain, and marketed at 210 lb. The Holsteins averaged 101 lb. at birth, the crossbreds 84, and the Shorthorns 78. The Holsteins reached market weight in 57 days, the crossbreds in 66 days, and the Shorthorns in 69 days.

Government grades were taken for all carcasses, with the Shorthorns grading B, the crossbreds B-minus, and the Holsteins C plus. However, when the carcasses were cut out for the butcher, there was no real difference in them, Dr. Carman reports.

In the same research project, similar animals are being raised for beef, and in another year or two the results will be issued by Dr. Carman. — D.R.B. ✓

Irrigation On a Dairy Farm

IRRIGATED forage certainly paid off in 1958 for Jim Workman of Oxbow, Sask. One of the top Holstein breeders in the province, he has about 125 head of registered stock and they can use a lot of feed. The dry spell ran through spring and well into last summer, with the result that the herd needed hay to replace pasture shortages.

Jim had irrigated before, but the need was never greater than last year. By applying water at the right time, he had a yield of 2,700 bales of hay from 30 acres of oats, and another 40 acres of second-year alfalfa gave him 2,200 bales. In contrast, he had 80 acres of oats in sandy soil, without irrigation, and the yield was only 700

bales. Even allowing for 15 acres that were blown out and yielded nothing, the amount of hay from the remaining 65 acres was very low.

Jim Workman takes the water from the Souris River through a pump powered by tractor. The pump has a 5" intake and a 4" outlet. Aluminum pipes between the pump and the sprinklers are so light that they give flexibility to the system.

He strip-grazed his 18-acre bromel-alfalfa pasture, with sprinklers preceding each rotation of cattle. Two irrigations enabled him to take the two cuts of alfalfa from 40 acres, with one application before the first cut and the other after it. Sprinklers were left in each location about 4 hours at a time to apply approximately 3" of water.

In a normal year, there's a good supply of silage, but that was impossible in 1958. Some hay had to be bought, but irrigation of even a limited acreage eased the situation considerably and left an ample supply for winter. It was also possible to put the herd on heavy oats hay feeding in the fall.

Production from Jim Workman's 40 cows and heifers is high, with some cows up around 15,000 lb. per lactation. One of them has given 96 lb. per day. — R.C. ✓

Average Out Tests for Cows

WHEN variations in the fat percentages of milk are wide, the causes need to be studied and corrected, says the Ontario Department of Agriculture. A number of factors influence butterfat content, and among them the individuality of the cow. But there is an average test for each cow from which she will not vary to any marked degree from year to year. So don't keep the low-testing cows for breeding purposes. Adding a high-test cow to a small herd of low-test cows will boost the herd's average test.

There is a definite variation in tests during the lactation period. A cow in good condition for freshening will give quite high tests for a week or two, and will then decline gradually for 10 to 12 weeks, followed by a general rise until she dries off. Cows milked too close to freshening date will show a marked decline in test during the last few weeks of the lactation. ✓



[Gulde photo]

Workman's herd on heavy oats hay feeding in the fall, thanks to irrigation.



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Keep People Happy About Milk

PEOPLE have very definite ideas on how a thing should taste. That's why the dairyman has a special interest in clean milk, which means milk that is clean in flavor as well as free of sediment. If he doesn't, the consumer is quite likely to drink less milk.

The Ontario Agricultural College's department of dairy science offers these suggestions:

- Do not milk while wearing clothes from which dust and chaff may fall into pails or cans containing milk. Never create dust while can

lids are removed, or when a filter is being changed from one can to another.

- Clip long hairs on flanks and udders of cows. Wipe dust from their sides and underparts before milking.
- Keep walls and ceilings of stables clean, free from dust and cobwebs. Provide a tight ceiling.

Skim Milk Best for Veal Calves

FEEDING trials at the Ontario Agricultural College indicate that the most profitable method of producing veal is through the liberal feeding of skim milk, supplemented with grain and hay.

Thirty-two Holstein calves were used in a study of eight different methods of feeding veal calves. These included: (a) The use of nurse cows. (b) Pail feeding of whole milk, with or without extra hay, grain or calf starter. (c) A combination of whole milk to start off, and then skim milk with or without hay and grain. (d) Milk replacer with or without hay, grain and calf starter.

Calves fed on milk replacer made the most expensive gains, and sold at the lowest prices. Calves fed on whole milk sold for the highest prices, and had the highest dressing percentage. However, skim milk-fed calves still returned the highest profits.

Whole Milk Powder on the Way

ANOTHER big change in milk marketing is just around the corner. Researchers at the University of Wisconsin are producing dried whole milk that mixes with water to give a product much like fresh milk. They say it does not have the cooked taste or chalky feel of some of the non-fat dry milks now on the market.

The big problem still to be overcome is to maintain the flavor of the dried whole milk. Up until now the fresh milk flavor has lasted only about 30 days at room temperature. If it is stored just above freezing, flavor quality has lasted nearly 60 days, and up to 3 months at zero storage temperature.

The dried whole milk, like some powdered beverages now on the market, combines readily with water at normal drinking temperature.

If Mastitis Strikes in Your Herd

IF you have a mastitis problem, you'll need help to get rid of it. The advice of the Dairy Herd Improvement Division, Alberta Department of Agriculture, is first to make a thorough survey of your herd management and improve it where necessary. Pay particular attention to milking practices and sanitation.

You will need a thorough herd diagnosis. All infected cows should be isolated, or at least moved to the end of the milking line. Arrange for adequate treatment of your cows, and dispose of all those that do not respond to the treatment.

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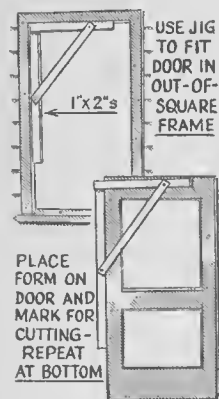
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WORKSHOP

Fitting a Door

The task of fitting a new screen or panel door perfectly in an out-of-square frame is simplified by this device. Take two

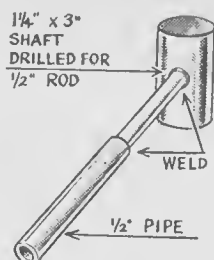


lengths of 1" by 2", the top one measuring about 30" and the other 5', and use a brace of the same material. Fit this jig into the door frame, tack on the brace to hold the angle securely, and then lay the jig on the new door

and mark off the top as indicated. Saw and plane the top of the door to the correct shape, and then measure the door frame on the hinge side from top to bottom, deduct about 1/4" to allow for clearance and mark this off on the door. Place the jig in the bottom corner of the frame on the hinge side, transfer this shape to the bottom of the door, mark and cut off as you did with the top edge. This gives the correct height for the door, but if it is too wide, plane off the hinge side of the stile first to fit the jamb perfectly. The other vertical stile is planed off to fit the opposite jamb. Needless to say, when a screen door is fitted, the bottom end must be undercut to fit the threshold properly. — H.E.F., Tex.

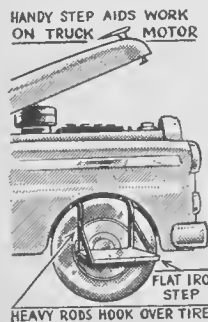
All-Weather Hammer

The hammer shown in the sketch is the best I ever had for carrying on the tractor. I made it at my welding bench, using a 3" length of 1 1/4" shafting as the head, with a 1/2" hole drilled into the center of it. I welded an 8" length of 1/2" rod into the hole, then slipped an 8" piece of 1/2" pipe over the other end of the rod and welded it. I left the handle 13" long. This kind of hammer never rots and the head can't come loose. — P.A.W., Alta.



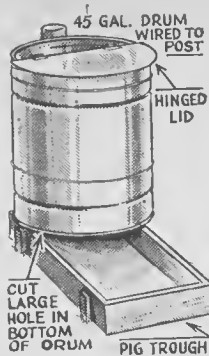
Working Step

If you have a big truck and need to work on the motor, this detachable step will help a lot. Take two heavy rods and weld them to a piece of flat iron about 10" wide and 16" long. Bend the other ends of the rods so they will fit over the truck tire. The step hangs on the tire securely. Add braces between the step and each of the rods as shown in the sketch. — D.P.C., Alta.



Pig Self-Feeder

Here's a way to make a self-feeder for your pigs cheaply, using a 45-gallon drum and a trough. Cut half of the bottom from the drum and hinge it to the other half, making a lid for the feeder. A large hole should be cut in the other end of the drum to allow the feed to drop down into the trough as space becomes available. Secure the drum to a post or the side of a building with wire, and rest it on the trough, which should be prevented from slipping by placing four pegs up against it. — H.B., Alta.

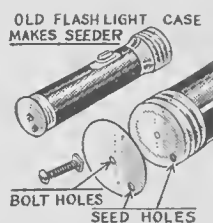


Ladder Safety

When placing a stepladder on a smooth, slippery surface, such as a polished floor, have the ladder rest on a piece of asphalt shingle to be sure of a solid grip. — A.N.F., N.B.

Garden Seeder

It doesn't take many minutes to make this garden seeder, if you have an old flashlight case. Remove any broken metal or trash from the case, and if you have a spare screw cap, use it in place of the headlight. If not, you can use the headlight for receiving seed and the back end for sowing. Drill 1/4" hole in the cap tight to the edge, and a small hole in the center of the cap to take a little bolt and nut. Cut out a disc of galvanized sheet metal about 1/16" wider than the cap and drill holes in it to match those in the cap, except that the 1/4" hole must be 1/16" from the edge. Bolt the disc and cap together through the center hole and your seeder is ready. You just twist the disc and tighten the bolt to make the hole whatever size you need. — H.S., Mich.



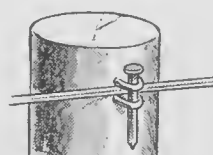
For Small Parts

Keep easy tabs on small parts like washers and nuts. File them on a wire coat hanger. The coat hanger should be snipped near the hook and the parts are slid through this gap. It will save you time spent hunting through boxes for these small parts. — H.M., Pa.



Temporary Fence

To put up a plain or woven fence temporarily, so it can be taken down easily, drive two staples into the fence posts, as shown in the sketch, wherever you need to support the wire. The wire is held between the staples and locked against the posts by dropping large-headed nails down through the



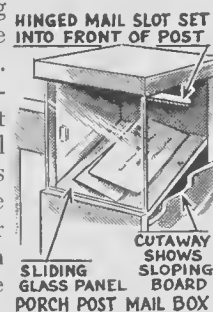
staples. Simply by removing the nails you can take down the fence. — D.E.F., N.B.

Strong Glue

If you've been having trouble finding a glue to stick glass to glass, leather to metal, or other unusual combinations, try this. Burn some shellac in a dish to get rid of the alcohol, and the remainder will be the strongest and best all-purpose glue you've ever used. — A.N.F., N.B.

Porch Post Mailbox

I set a hinged mail slot into the front of a hollow porch post, and added a slanting board or chute inside the post. On the side facing our front door, I inserted a sliding glass panel, to move horizontally, for easy inspection and access to the mail. The illustration gives you the idea. Note that the side of the post has been cut away only so you can see what goes on inside—you wouldn't do this when you were making the mailbox. The sketch is made from the rear. — J.W., Alta.



Safe Hammer

Keep the head on the hammer by drilling a small hole about the size of a No. 8 nail through the top of the handle cornerwise. Put a nail down through the hole and clinch the ends down. This will keep the head on. — H.S., Mich.

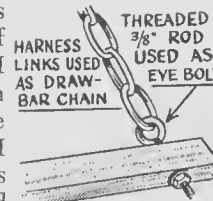
Drum Opener

A continuing problem on farms is to find a handy gadget to open gas drums. It can be settled once and for all by using a good-sized bolt with a couple of nuts on it. Space the nuts so they fit snugly into the recess of the bung, a quick turn, and the drum is opened. — P.A.W., Alta.



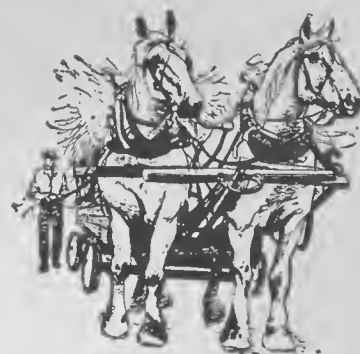
Harrow Chains

If you need some chain links to hitch harrow sections to the drawbar, you can use links from the ends of harness braces. I have a wooden drawbar on the harrow, so I made eye-bolts from 3/8" round iron, attached 3 links to each eye-bolt, and it was ready to use. You will get the idea from the sketch. — P.G., Man.



Flying Heads

Protect yourself against flying heads of hammers and hatchets this way. Flatten the side of a wood screw into a triangular shape. Drive this modified screw as a wedge into the handle of the tool. The teeth formed by the threads will hold the wedge in place against the roughest treatment. — H.M., Pa.



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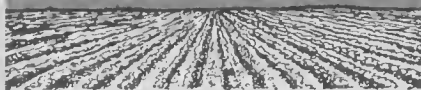
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SOILS and CROPS



*How a municipality fought off
an attack on their field crops*

They Learned How to Handle Grasshoppers



Roy McKenzie (left), director, Plant Industry Branch, Sask. Dept. of Agriculture, sees dieldrin made ready in Toronto for shipment to Saskatchewan. [Richard Mathews photo]

GRASSHOPPERS will be very active again in the Prairie Provinces this year, according to the forecasts. These show that the severity will be increased over last year, especially in some areas of Saskatchewan. Without minimizing the seriousness of the threat, it is possible to take some comfort from the success achieved in a number of districts last year in controlling this pest.

According to the 1958 forecast, one of the worst areas in Saskatchewan lay south of Weyburn. So Agricultural Representative A. M. Crowle started to organize a counter-attack. Armed with a film on grasshopper control, he held a series of meetings in his area and roused farmers to action.

It was well worth the effort. "Farmers went in there and sprayed, and it paid off. What's more important, they are now confident they can handle grasshoppers," says Crowle.

One of the reasons for the victory was the kind of good local organization found in Lomond municipality. Reeve William White of Goodwater organized the eastern half, while Elmer Oliver of Colgate went to work on the west side. The municipality sold \$4,600 worth of chemical, bought at cost price under the provincial Department of Agriculture's scheme, which was sufficient to spray all the infested areas, comprising about half of the municipality.

Nobody refused to spray and all came to realize how effective the control was. In fact, many of them would have had no crop at all if the grasshoppers had had their way. The weather was dry and ideal for a heavy build-up, with the two-striped roadside hopper most in evidence.

IT was the first year that farmers in that area had both dieldrin and aldrin sprays for their campaign. Dieldrin was preferred, except for pastures, where aldrin showed an advantage because it was less poisonous and it didn't remain active as long as

dieldrin, says William White. Dieldrin is the more expensive, at \$5.20 a gallon, compared with \$3.20 for aldrin, but dieldrin is the more economical because only 1 oz. per acre is needed, as against 2½ oz. of aldrin. Dieldrin also mixes more readily with water, and stays mixed even when left in the tank over a week end.

In Lomond municipality, they gave farmers the chemical to spray road allowances adjacent to their farms, calculating it on the basis of enough to spray 6 acres twice. This cost under \$1,000, or very much less than if the municipality had undertaken the job. It was also more efficient, because farmers were able to spray the road allowances at the right time.

ON their own land, farmers were spraying three or four times, and despite the fact that the hatch came late, control was excellent. They also

worked their summerfallow to ensure that hoppers couldn't feed there. Another idea that worked well was to leave narrow trap strips alongside summerfallow fields, which were sprayed with poison to kill off grasshoppers that were forced to feed there.

Spraying equipment was shared by several farmers, some mounted on trucks, others on tractors. The advantage of trucks was that they could move along at 8 m.p.h. when spraying. One farmer, who set up a spray boom on his truck, with controls in the cab, was able to undertake custom work. Another used his truck to haul water, which was needed at a rate of up to 4 gallons per acre, mixed with the chemicals, depending on the type of spray nozzle used. Tanks were not essential. In fact, a lot of farmers made do with barrels to keep down their costs.

As an added encouragement the municipality, unlike some others, did not insist that farmers take complete 4-gallon cans of the chemicals. As a result, they bought just what they needed and avoided having a lot of poison left over at the end of the season.

Grain yields were low in the municipality last summer, on account of a drought, and some farmers had as little as 5 bushels per acre, but they were able to claim the P.F.A.A. payment. Despite the poor harvest, the general feeling was that the cost of spraying was well worth it, even though some spent as much as \$300. It has been estimated that the cost per acre can average about 15¢ for the chemical.

With heavy grasshopper infestations forecast for this season, campaigns are needed again. Perhaps places like the Lomond municipality are already ahead of the game, through killing so many adult insects last year. But whatever the infestation, they expect little trouble in getting people to spray.

Says William White: "All it needed was a good ag. rep., an active agricultural committee, and men prepared to visit farms and talk over the problem. We had all three."—R.C. v

1959 Forecasts for the Prairies

SASKATCHEWAN. Largest outbreaks since 1950 are expected, heaviest in south, and including a total of about 140 municipalities. Most severe areas are north and east of Tribune, north of Assiniboia, south and west of Gravelbourg, and east of Hodgeville. The severe areas form a strip from the southeast around Northgate extending northwest up through Radville, Assiniboia, broadening out along a front from Mossbank to Wood Mountain through to Kincaid, Hodgeville and Coderre, with an isolated pocket northwest of Swift Current. The moderate to light area covers most of the south-east, swings north on the Swift Current-Moose Jaw line, then west to the Alberta border and north through Saskatoon to Rosthern.

MANITOBA. Decrease in area of infestation, but slight increase in severity. Light but widely distributed in Red River Valley, severe in Carman-Haywood district, light to severe in Gladstone district and around Neepawa, also Brandon and the area extending from Souris into the southwestern part of the province.

ALBERTA. Forecast area includes the Medicine Hat, Staveland and Coutts triangle, with light infestations expected north and south of Empress along the Saskatchewan border.

(Consult ag. reps. for forecasts in detail, also for information on provincial schemes for supply of chemicals.) v

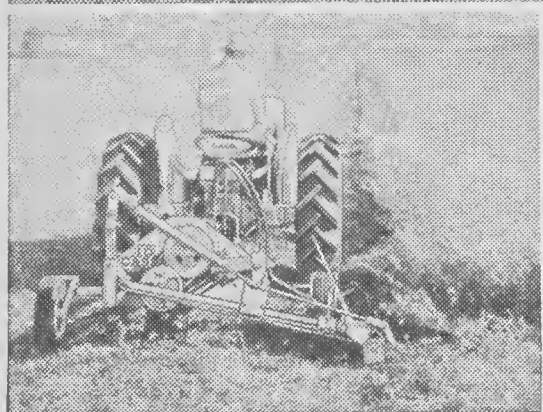
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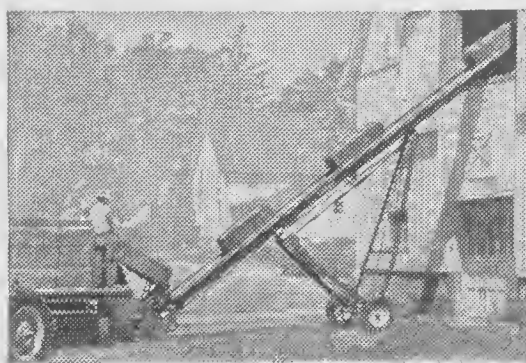
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CASE E-3 Elevator ends crop storage bottlenecks. Light, easy to move . . . one man can set it up. Sides adjust to fit all crops. Auto-type wheels and telescoping hitch make transporting fast and safe.

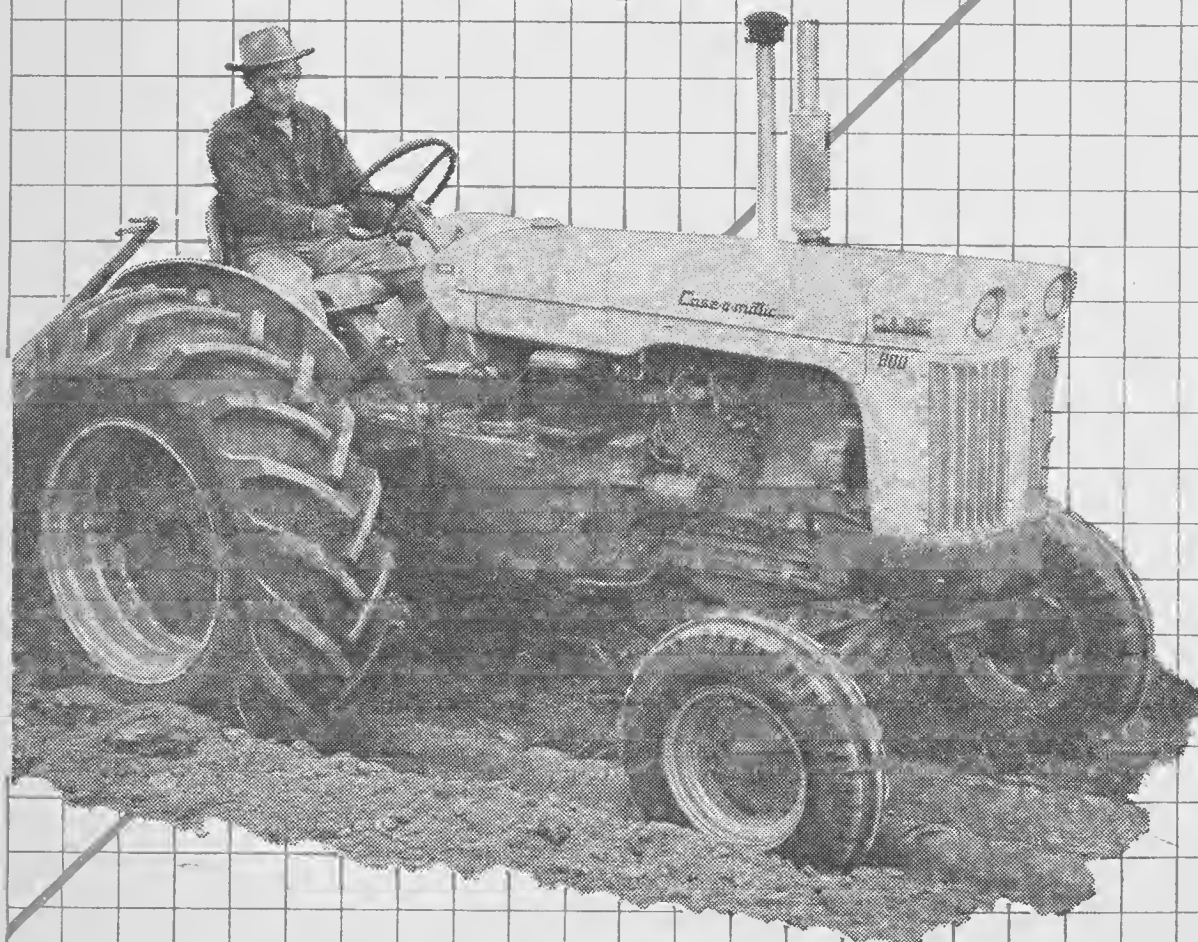
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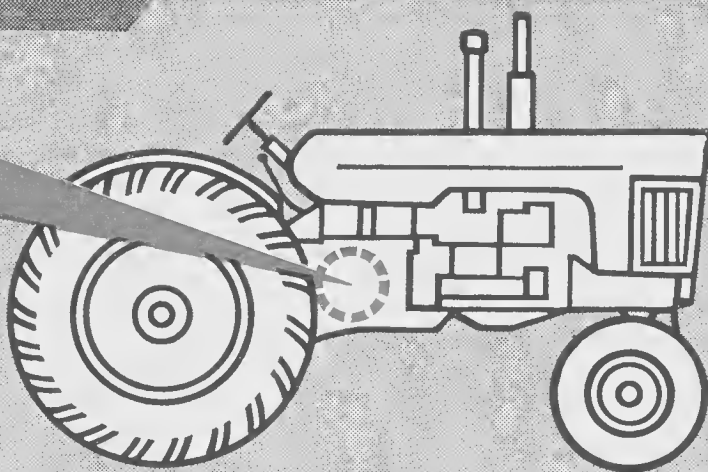
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Grass in One Row Alfalfa in the Other

by M. R. KILCHER

A MIXTURE of grass and alfalfa can be expected to yield about double the amount of hay obtained from a straight stand of grass. Recent experiments at Swift Current Experimental Farm further indicate that this grass-alfalfa hay yield can be pushed up at least another 15 per cent without using any more or any different proportions of seed. The increased yield has been obtained by seeding the grass and the alfalfa in alternate rows instead of in mixture in the same rows.

This alternate row seeding technique isn't altogether new. Mr. Chas. Ahlberg, a pioneer farmer at Golden Prairie, Sask., seeded a crested wheat-grass and alfalfa field for hay in alternate rows as far back as March 1939. Reports are that increased hay yields were believed to have been obtained. Even more recently, within the last 7 or 8 years, agricultural reports from Oregon and Washington have stated that the alternate row method is giving higher hay yields on dryland.

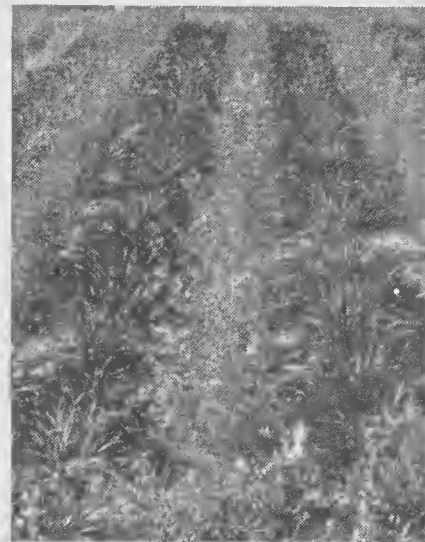
The experiments at Swift Current measured the hay yield performance of grass and alfalfa in mixture against the same grasses and alfalfa in alternate rows over a 4-year period. In two of these years when moisture was very good, the hay increases for alternate row seedings were only 5 per cent and 10 per cent. But, the differences in the other two years, which were dry, were 35 per cent and 135 per cent in favor of the alternate row stand.

In studying the reasons for the better performance from alternate row seedings it was found that the alfalfa stands were nearly twice as good when seeded in alternate rows. Apparently the grass suppresses the alfalfa stands when mixed and seeded together.

These tests at Swift Current were located on dryland loam soil. All spacings between rows were the conventional 12-inch which is the standard forage crop row spacing used in the drier parts of the Prairies. However, the same principle for the same reasons might well apply to the moister areas where 6-inch spacings between rows are commonly used.

Seeding in alternate rows can be achieved by two methods. Homemade drill box dividers can be used with the grass and alfalfa placed in the alternate compartments. In this case, some sort of inert material such as cracked grain must be added to the alfalfa to maintain a proper seeding rate. A very good rule of thumb seeding rate, regardless of the kind of grass or alfalfa, is 35 seeds per foot of row.

The other method of getting the field seeded in alternate rows is to pull two drills in tandem, one seeding grass and the other seeding the alfalfa. This tandem drill method is one which has been used extensively in experimental seeding of conservation projects in the western United States. Some of the runs in each drill must be plugged or covered so that only the desired ones are delivering seed. Here again the 35 seeds per foot of row is your proper seeding rate. Counting the dropped



Alfalfa and grass in alternate rows at the Swift Current Experimental Farm.

seeds after a short run on hard ground is the quickest and easiest way of setting the drill right.

(Mr. Kilcher is research officer, Forage Crops Section, Swift Current Experimental Farm, Sask.—Ed.) V

Chemical For Rust Control

RECENT experiments in the chemical control of rust have been very encouraging. At last there appears to be a chemical, nickel chloride, that can do the job cheaply and efficiently, and it now remains to be seen whether the amount of nickel residue on crops will meet Federal regulations, and what effect the chemical has on germination and baking quality.

Researchers at Winnipeg applied nickel chloride and nickel nitrate with a knapsack sprayer at rates of six-tenths lb. and 1 lb. per acre in 66 gallons of water. Wheat leaf rust was eradicated and yields increased by 8 to 21 per cent. Rates of 2 and 3 lb. per acre injured the leaf areas, and one application of nickel chloride at 3 lb. per acre reduced kernel weights and yields compared with the check plots. It appears that 1 lb. per acre is the most suitable rate, with spraying at 7- to 8-day intervals while rust is present in the crop.

The nickel salts meet most of the requirements for rust control of wheat. They treat the disease, are low in cost, have a long storage life and are relatively safe to handle.

Until chemicals are officially approved for rust control, rust-resistant wheat varieties are still the best bet. V

No Open Areas

MAINTAIN headlands and roadsides on your farm so they can be seeded to forage mixtures, mowed and sprayed. Apart from providing extra forage or grazing, this guards these areas from wind or water erosion, or from becoming a jumping off point for weed invasions which will infest your crop land. V

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SOILS AND CROPS

Pasture Renovation

INTENSIVE dairy farming needs high yielding pastures. When yields fall off, states the Agassiz Experimental Farm, B.C., it's time to break up the sod to destroy weeds, reduce the mat of dead roots which hampers new growth, restore the fertility balance of the soil, ease soil compaction and establish high-quality legumes and grasses in the sward.

Sod breaking can be done in either the spring or fall. But fall plowing is best because surface cultivation gives a better weed kill under dry conditions. Lime, manure and fertilizer can also be spread better when machine traction is high and soil compaction low. In areas of heavy winter rainfall, sod breaking should be followed with a cover crop of oats or fall rye to protect the land from leaching. As most pastures contain weeds in varying degrees, it pays to plant either a cereal, or some intertilled crop, for the first year or two so as to ensure that these weeds are thoroughly cleaned out.

When the time comes to reseed your pasture mixture, work the soil well so that you have a good seedbed. The time required to do this will depend on the type of soil and equipment you have, and also the soil's moisture content. For the Lower Fraser Valley region, it is recommended that 300 to 400 lb. per acre of a complete fertilizer be broadcast before the seeding operation, then harrow in lightly. ✓

Plan Crops To Suit Soil

DO you have your crops planned for this year? Prof. N. R. Richards, of the Ontario College of Agriculture, advises farmers to plan crops to suit their soils, bearing in mind the following points:

1. Grow cultivated crops on level land if possible.
2. On rolling land, include plenty of legumes and grasses in the rotation, with not more than two grain crops in succession.
3. If intertilled crops must be grown on sloping land, plant and cultivate across the slope rather than up and down.
4. Keep rough, broken or hilly land in long-term pasture, or reforest it.
5. Consider establishing a woodlot, which can be a valuable asset if well cared for. ✓

Honeybee Helps Yield and Quality

A MEETING of Federal and provincial beekeeping experts at Abbotsford, B.C., gave emphasis to the value of honeybees in pollination. They pointed out that honeybees generally increase the yields and quality of many fruits and seed crops. Even where forage seed yields were not increased by honeybees, seed set was more even and harvesting could take place as much as 2 weeks earlier. ✓



The mighty Oliver 990 with GM engine—the big power to match up with all your big field operations.

TAKE THE *TEAMED-POWER* WAY to save soil moisture and cultivating time

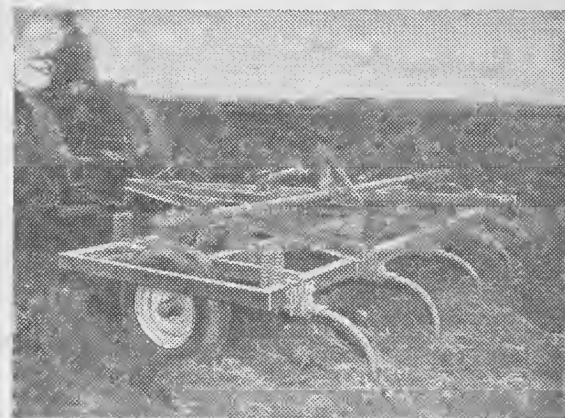
This is your invitation to try the mighty Oliver 990—the big tractor with small tractor convenience and economy. See it go to work with a design-matched tillage implement—*TEAMED-POWER*, saving you time and money *plus* giving you the kind of seedbed that brings bumper yields.

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*Actual, recorded maximum pounds of pull in official, nationally recognized tests was 12,538.



The Oliver chisel plow available in widths to match every wheel-tractor size.

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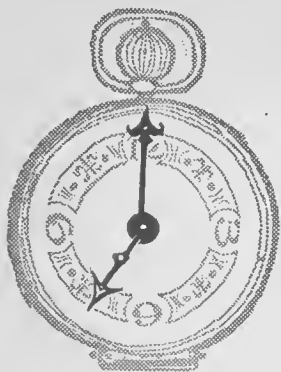
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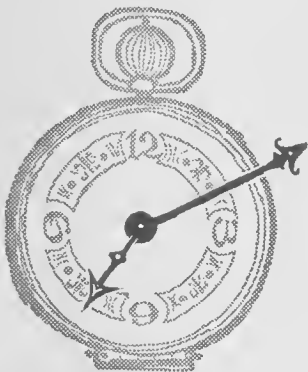
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Take a look at the **WHAT'S NEW** column, page 66. There is likely a new product you could use.

SOILS AND CROPS

Grain Corn Stored in the Silo

It costs less, gives a more palatable livestock feed

THE corn cribs on livestock farms of the future may be silos. Kent County, Ont., farmer Ken Clark stored 30 acres of high moisture grain corn, which he wanted for pig feed, in his new concrete-stave 12' by 40' upright silo last fall. In February, he opened it, and the corn came out with a slightly fermented odor and taste. "The way the pigs relished it was unbelievable," he reports.

He isn't the first Ontario farmer to try silo-storage of damp corn. Recently, farmers like Don Hart, Woodstock; Jim McGuigan, Cedar Springs; and Kelso Simpson, Ridgetown, have tried it too. Like Clark, they heard of farmers in Michigan trying it out, and maybe they visited some of them, to see for themselves how it worked. But Clark is one of the first Canadians to risk so big an investment in a silo for the sole purpose of storing corn.

Once he was certain the corn was well preserved, Ken Clark went even further, and built a completely mechanized system for feeding corn to pigs. He installed a silo unloader, which he adapted to handle grain corn. At the base of the silo chute, he installed an old weigh-scale which he purchased second-hand from a distillery, and built a feed bin on it, so he could weigh the corn coming out of the silo. Then, he devised a series of augers to carry the corn from the bin, over to the adjoining pig pens, and dump it into the self-feeders in those pens.

IN addition to these on-the-farm trials, with damp corn, experiments have been run both at the Ontario Agricultural College and the Ridgetown Experimental Farm. Prof. Jack Pos of the O.A.C. reports that the corn kept very well, and that steers fed on it had thrived. Jack Underwood, of Ridgetown, found that it was more palatable than crib-stored corn, and it didn't hurt the pigs' mouths as did crib-dried corn when it was dry and hard.



Corn is unloaded mechanically from a silo, weighed inside a plywood shelter, and augered to the feed hoppers.



Ken Clark examining a handful of shelled corn arriving at the feeders.

Several advantages are claimed for silo storage:

- It permits earlier harvesting, and allows earlier after-harvest tillage, and thus earlier planting of fall crops.
- It reduces harvesting losses. Research in Minnesota showed that field losses which normally amount to 7 per cent for corn harvested at 26 per cent kernel moisture, can be reduced to 4 per cent when kernel moisture content is 30 per cent.
- It eliminates the need for costly artificial drying equipment, if early harvesting is attempted with corn to be crib-stored.
- It adapts itself to mechanized feeding of corn.
- It gives improved palatability of the corn.

Ken Clark harvested his corn with a picker-sheller at an average moisture content of 29 per cent, and put it into the silo with a blower. Once the silo was full, he covered it with a layer of plastic. He calculates that the cost of storing it in the \$1,600 silo was much less than it would have been in corn cribs.

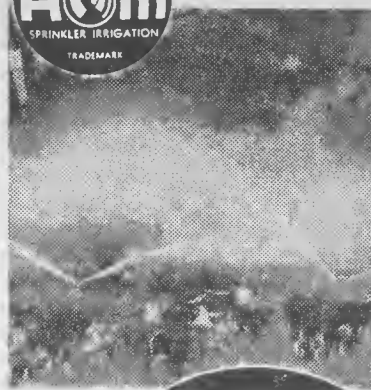
The pigs balance their own ration in the Clark hog-feeding program, for they have both corn and concentrate in front of them, in different hoppers. He figures they will balance it out at about 1 part of concentrate to 7 or 8 parts of corn, so that if each hog takes about 10 bushels of corn, his silo will feed 400 hogs.—D.R.B. ✓

Corn Borer Control

IN 1956, Wisconsin researchers isolated a chemical which helped corn kill off young European corn borers, if it was in the plant tissue. Further study of the chemical has since led to the hope that they could develop hybrid corn which would resist the borer, because it would contain a good proportion of the chemical, which they have given the name of Resistance Factor A (RFA). ✓



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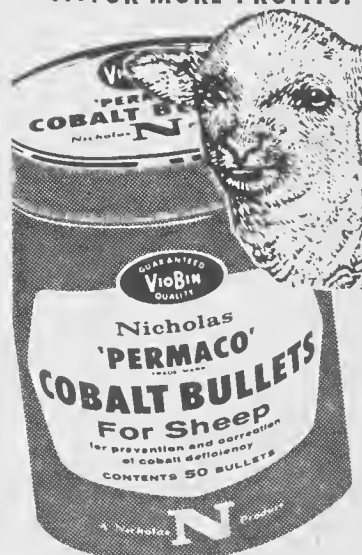
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SOILS AND CROPS

Quebec Field Crop Recommendations

Spring Wheat. Aeadia, Caseade.

Fall Wheat. Kharkov 22 M.C., Rideau.

Oats. (in order of preference). Glen, Shefford, Garry, Abegweit, Roxton (Montreal region). Glen, Abegweit, Shefford, Garry (Eastern Townships). Glen, Garry, Shefford (Lower St. Lawrence). Shefford, Glen (Lake St. John). Shefford, Glen, Fundy (Gaspé Peninsula). Glen, Shefford (Abitibi-Temiskaming).

Barley. (in order of preference). Parkland, Montcalm, O.A.C. 21 (Montreal region). Parkland, Montcalm, Brant (Eastern Townships). Montcalm, Parkland, Brant (Lower St. Lawrence). Fort, Parkland, Montcalm (Lake St. John and Gaspé Peninsula). Nord, Parkland, Montcalm (Abitibi-Temiskaming).

Grain Mixtures. O.A.C. 21 with Glen or Shefford. Brant, Parkland or Montcalm with any recommended oat variety except Roxton.

Fall Rye. Horton.

Buckwheat. Japanese, Silverhull.

Field Beans. Clipper, Corvette, Improved Yellow Eye, Michelite.

Field Peas. Arthur, Chancellor, Valley.

Grain Millet. Crown, Siberian.

Corn Hybrids for Silage. Algonquin, Cornell M4, Pfister 44, Pioneer 377A (similar in maturity to Canada 531). Pride K300, Warwick 600, DeKalb 240, Pioneer 349 (similar in maturity to Canada 606). Funks G30A, Jacques 1158J (similar in maturity to Wisconsin 7).

Corn Hybrids for Grain (in most of southwestern Quebec). Canada 240, Funks G2, Warwick 210, Pioneer 396, Pride K5, Pfister 28.

Swedes. Ditmars Bronze Top, Laurentian.

Mangels. Frontenac, Prince.

Potatoes. Irish Cobbler, Katahdin, Green Mountain, Sebago.

Red Clover. LaSalle.

Alfalfa. Vernal, Rhizoma, DuPuits, Narragansett.

Birdsfoot Trefoil. Empire, Viking (pedigreed seed for winter hardiness).

Ladino Clover. Pedigreed seed for true type.

Timothy. Climax.

✓

Sprayer Used For Clearing Brush

PROOF that 2,4-D can keep brush from taking over even the stoniest land is provided by an experience at the Midale community pasture, Sask. A crew from the provincial Conservation and Development Branch went in there and got a 90 per cent kill of western snowberry using 2 lb. of 2,4-D ester in 12 gal. of water. A jet-boom sprayer pulled at 3 m.p.h. behind a tractor sprayed 300 acres at 20 lb. per sq. in. pressure.

Brush clearing at Midale was made difficult by the exceedingly stony land, rendering ordinary clearing impossible. It was even difficult to pull a sprayer through the pasture and maintain a fairly uniform spray, but they succeeded. It left the snowberry stand-

ing upright to catch snow, and the dead bushes will fall over later.

Burning is not recommended for clearing brush. It tends to kill desirable native grasses, such as spear grass. This leaves the blue gramma, which is palatable but low yielding, and so there's less forage. In addition, it would take several burnings to kill out western snowberry compared with only one spraying.

✓

Beekeeping For Beginners

IF you are thinking of keeping bees for the first time, go right ahead, but realize that the profits may be small for the first year or two. The Brandon Experimental Farm, Man., gives this advice, and also suggests that the beginner should order only two or three packages of bees and learn whether or not he is adapted to beekeeping. Beekeeping equip-

ment can be a fairly large investment, but it has a low resale value.

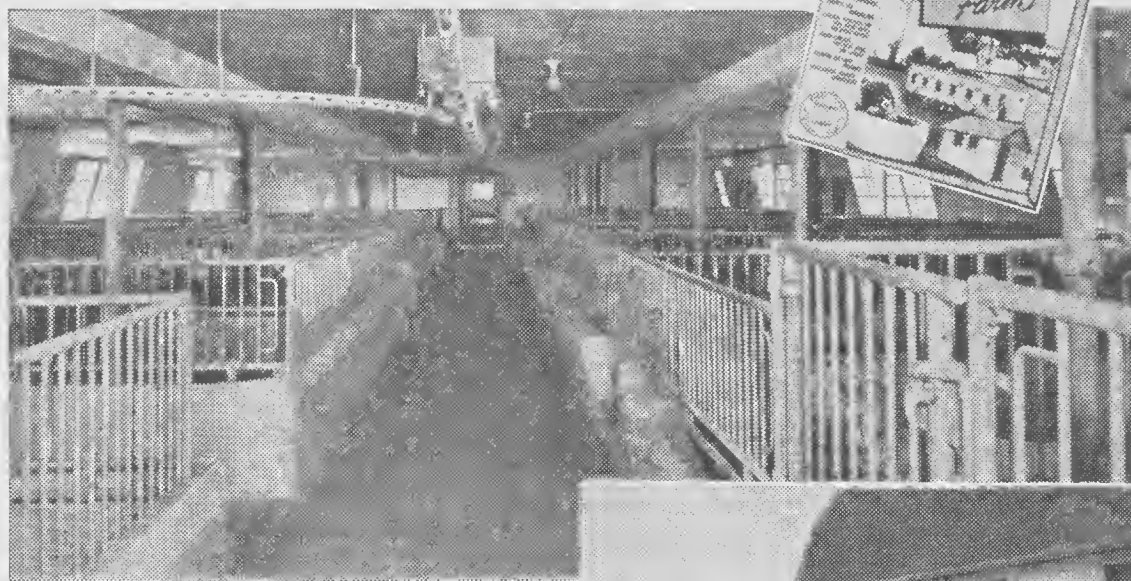
If you buy second-hand equipment, it may need repair and painting before the season starts. New equipment should be assembled and painted well before the bees are due.

Study the habits and activities of bees in order to avoid unnecessary mistakes. You can obtain free literature from the experimental farms or departments of agriculture.

✓

HOG BREEDERS

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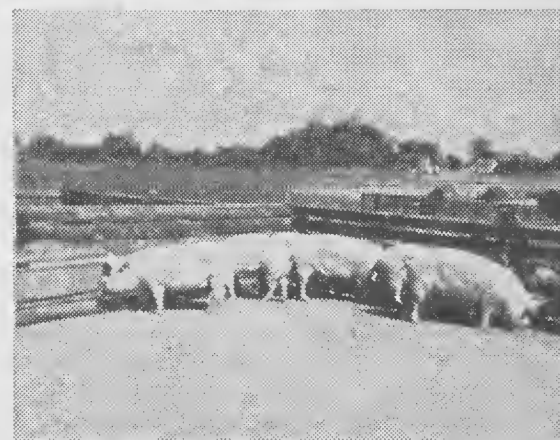
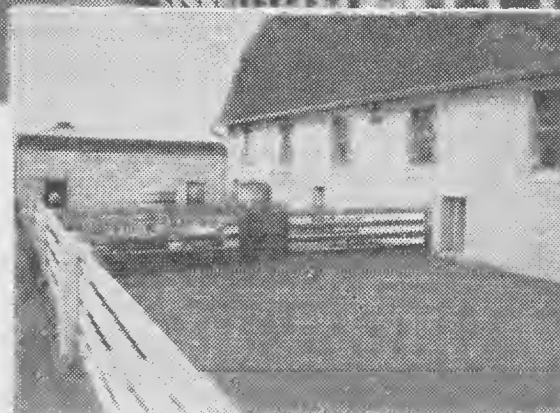


You will find many useful ideas in this free 116-page book of practical information on how to build modern; fire-proof, sanitary hog houses—feeding floors—outdoor pens—and other farm structures.

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A New Look at Nitrogen for Pastures

"NITROGEN is the trigger to get growth of forage plants started," says Dr. George Cooper of Cyanamid of Canada Limited. Phosphorus and potash, unlike nitrogen, tend to stay put once they are applied sufficiently until they are used up, then the addition of nitrogen can give remarkable results.

In fact, he proved it last summer on tests on seven dairy farms across Ontario. These pasture fertilization trials were carried on in co-operation with local Soil and Crop Improvement Associations, agricultural representatives, and other interested parties.

On these farms, the pasture field normally used was divided into three equal sections, and one was saved as a check plot, and handled in the regular manner by the dairy farmer concerned. The other two plots were tested to see if lime, phosphorus and potash were required. When these needs were met, various applications of ammonium nitrate were made to one field, and of urea, an organic nitrogen fertilizer, to the other. Records were kept of the amount of grazing the cows got off each plot, and the value of the milk produced was credited to it, after allowing for the extra cost of grain, supplements, etc., that went into the rations.

IN these trials, one of the province's good dairymen, Cleason Snyder, Waterloo, got \$167 worth of milk per acre from his regular pasture field, \$278 worth from one dressed with urea, and \$203 worth from the one dressed with ammonium nitrate. This represented an amazing return of \$8.24 for each dollar's worth of urea applied, and of \$2.80 for each dollar spent on ammonium nitrate.

On Johnson Neeland's farm at Hornby in Halton County, each \$1 worth of urea applied returned \$3.30 worth of milk, while a dollar's worth of ammonium nitrate returned \$1.68 worth of milk.

On the farm of Mac Logan, Woodstock, the field fertilized with urea returned \$4.39 worth of milk for every dollar spent on fertilizer compared to his ordinary pasture field, while on the one where ammonium nitrate was used, the return was \$5.27.

On Harvey Nurse's farm at Georgetown, the field handled in the normal way gave 193 grazing days, the one with ammonium nitrate gave 232 grazing days, and the urea-dressed field gave 236 grazing days—for returns of \$1.86 and \$2.03 for each dollar's worth of ammonium nitrate and urea applied.

Down in the Welland district, Roswell Bailey's cows took \$103 worth of milk per acre off his check field, \$116 worth off the one fertilized with ammonium nitrate, and \$131 worth per acre off the urea-fertilized one.

When the results from the farms of Frank Young, Caledonia, and John McClure, Peel County, were included with these, the following averages were obtained: one dollar's worth of urea returned \$3.52 worth of milk, while the ammonium nitrate returned

\$2.45. The check fields averaged 138 grazing days per acre, those getting ammonium nitrate averaged 184 days, and the urea-fertilized fields gave 199 grazing days per acre.

If credit had been given to the fertilized pastures for the grazing they provided to dry cows and heifers that also fed on them, the story would have been even more spectacular.

Dr. Cooper says that despite the late cold spring, and the dry summer in 1958, even the farmers who had been satisfied with their former pasture programs were surprised at the results they got from the application of nitrogen. In every case but one, the fertilized fields were ready for grazing earlier in the spring, and had an extended grazing season.

AMMONIUM nitrate has been the form of nitrogen fertilizer commonly used in the past, but now that urea is available, especially to farmers in Eastern Canada, they will have to decide which one to use. Dr. Cooper says that urea, like the nitrate, is produced in granular form, but that it is a higher-analysis fertilizer, having 45 per cent nitrogen content compared to 33½ per cent for the nitrate. This means it is less bulky to handle. It is leach resistant too.

The field trials of 1958 showed that good results can be obtained with a single application of it, in either fall or spring, whereas split applications (early spring, and then in the summer) are recommended with the ammonium nitrate, because of the danger of leaching.

"It's impossible to predict exactly what fertilization program will give the best returns on any farm," says Dr. Cooper. "Each farmer has to determine that for himself. But generally speaking, for best results on grassland pastures, (and probably on ones high in legumes too), it is more practical to buy mixed fertilizer with a low nitrogen content for fall application, and then to apply nitrogen as required."—D.R.B.

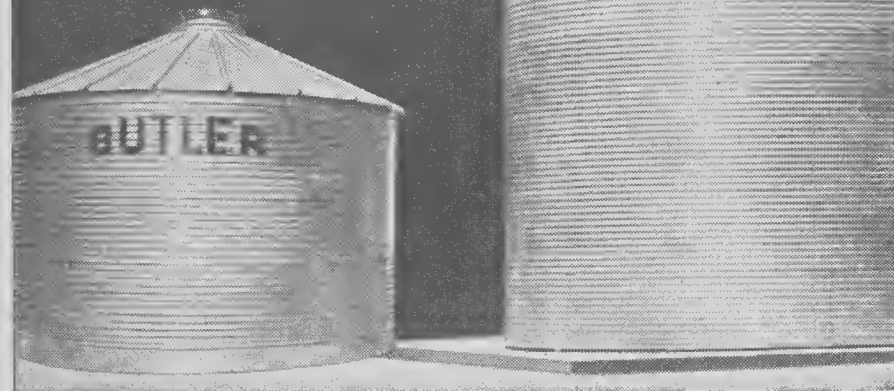
Fertilizing Wheat Crops

WHEN does it pay to use fertilizers on wheat? The response varies from farm to farm, so it's a good idea to run trials on one's own farm, with fertilized and unfertilized parts of the field for comparison. However, here is some indication of the effects of fertilizer at the Regina Experimental farm:

Average increases in wheat yields due to fertilizers on summerfallow have been 3 to 4 bushels per acre. They reckon that is profitable at present prices of fertilizer and wheat, provided all the crop is sold.

On stubble, fertilizers were profitable in approximately 50 per cent of tests during 4 years, and then only when moisture supplies were ample. From the limited amount of testing so far, it is assumed that fertilizers on dry stubble fields are not likely to be profitable.

the long and the short of it is this



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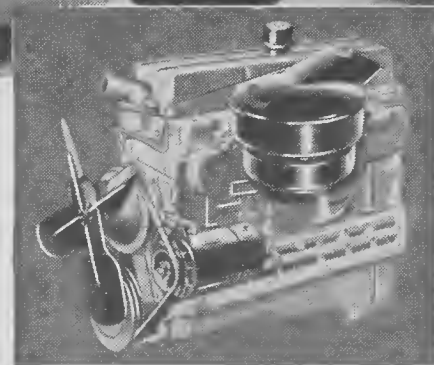
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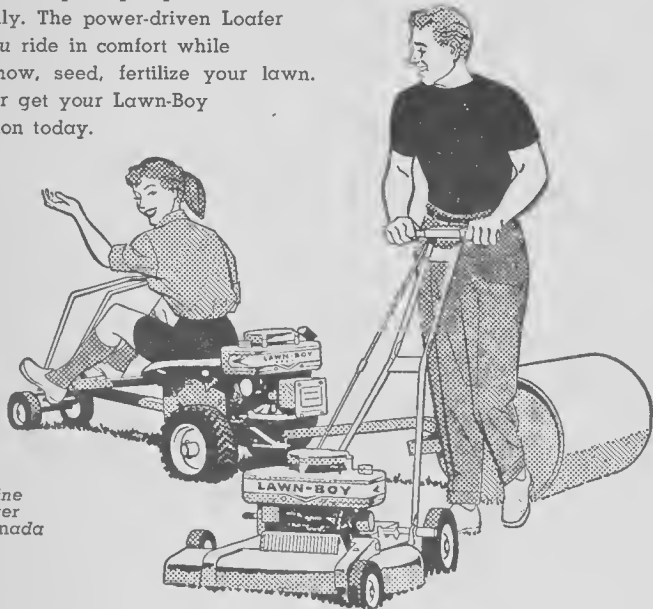
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*Taking the heat out of
the fresh-picked fruit*

Low Cost Cold Store For the Fruit Farmer



[Guide photo

Miss K. Jemmett of Beamsville, Ont., had this cold store constructed to the same specifications as Dr. J. L. Truscott's economical building at Vineland.

TAKE the field heat out of fresh fruit as soon as it is picked, and you can give it days of extra life. Store that fruit in cold storage, and it may keep for weeks. There is nothing new about these facts, but they are taking on new significance now that housewives are proclaiming they don't want poor fruit at any price.

The trouble is, cold storage buildings cost money. That cost looms especially large for growers of soft fruit who may use them for only 2 or 3 months of the year.

Dr. J. L. Truscott of the Vineland Experimental Station may have an answer for them. He designed and built a cold store using some interesting cost-cutting ideas. It has given adequate service in the busy fruit season.

- Floor and ceiling are perforated to allow a better distribution of cooling air.

- Less than standard insulation is used, because storage is frequently being emptied and refilled, and the fruit season is short.

- He used a minimum of cooling surface by settling for temperatures of 38 to 42 degrees. This eliminated danger of frost injury too, so simple controls can be used.

- He risked the economy of a single large motor rather than small ones in cycle, because the cooling season is so short.

- He used inexpensive building materials.

THE building, which measures 38' by 20', is built of standard 5/16" fir plywood, and is set on sills supported by cedar posts. The base of the building is filled with crushed stones, to raise the floor to truck body level. Concrete blocks, set on the stone fill, support the floor sections, which are 5' square sections of perforated plywood, mounted on a frame of 2" by 4" lumber. A perforated plywood false ceiling (1" holes were

drilled at 6" centers) was hung from the ceiling joists. This left about 1' of space both above the ceiling and under the floor to form the air passageways.

Wall height is only 8', and a rolled type of paper-covered mineral bat, 3" thick, was used between the wall studding. Two layers were used in the ceiling.

Cooling coil and fan are located in one end of the building, in a 4' section partitioned off by an insulated wall. He used a 5 h.p. motor on the small fan (it was designed for a 2 h.p. one) to move 8,000 cu. ft. per min., and a 7 h.p. motor on the compressor.

Cost of the building when it was built 3 years ago was \$2,000, and the equipment cost another \$3,000.

Last season Dr. Truscott installed a supplementary cooling unit which uses ice, to take care of peak loads. It consists of a concrete tank for ice, incorporated into the cooling unit. The tank has capacity for 5 tons of ice (a ton of ice will cool 3 to 4 tons of peaches).—D.R.B. V

Melons for Western Canada

WORK is going ahead on producing acceptable melons at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, Alta. Low sugar content, thin rind and small size have been major problems. Dr. I. L. Nonnecke reports that muskmelon material from Oregon is to be used for breeding work, since half a dozen lines have shown adaptability to Alberta conditions.

The basis of muskmelon breeding on the Prairies has been "Far North," a variety from Indian Head. It has been the only variety that could be relied on, although it was small, had a sharp taste and the flesh did not stay firm for long. The earliness of this variety, crossed with some intro-

duced varieties, is expected to improve the situation.

Watermelon is more difficult. There is reason to hope that size can be improved fairly simply, but the bright-colored flesh and lack of seeds that people prefer are much bigger problems. ✓

Leaves

Tell the Tale

THE leaf-analysis service for Ontario growers of apples, peaches and grapes is to be repeated this year by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The idea is to help the grower improve the fruits' quality and storage life, which are associated with the nutrient levels in the trees.

Too little potassium or too much nitrogen, or lack of balance between them, can result in a marked decrease in fruit quality, says Dr. J. A. Archibald of the Vineland Horticultural Experimental Station. If nitrogen is too low, there is a marked decrease in a tree's vigor and yield. All leaf samples are analyzed for nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium and magnesium.

In 1958, the first year this service was provided, the nutritional problems of apple growers varied considerably from one area to another. The most common troubles on a province-wide basis were low nitrogen, low potassium and high nitrogen levels. In eastern Ontario, magnesium deficiency was fairly common, and boron deficiency was evident from many samples in this area.

Details of the leaf-analysis service are available from county agricultural representatives. ✓

New Early

Tomatoes Released

NEW tomato varieties announced by the Vineland Experimental Station, Ont., are named Vinered and Viceroy. Up to the present, most early varieties developed for the fresh market have been rather pale in color for processing, but the two new ones have good color and are able to set fruit at lower temperatures than most other varieties. They were developed for the processing industry, but can be grown in the home garden.

Vinered, the earlier of the two, came from a cross between Early Chatham and Rutgers. It has better color than Viceroy.

Viceroy, a cross between Bounty and Rutgers is large and meaty, and has an attractive flavor. It has sparse foliage and may be susceptible to sunscald in a hot season.

Like all early varieties, both have a lower yield per plant than the later varieties. They should be sprayed carefully to retain all their foliage.

Processing companies have bought almost the entire seed supply, but Vineland has been distributing a few trial packets as long as they last. Both Vinered and Viceroy will be available from seed companies next fall. ✓



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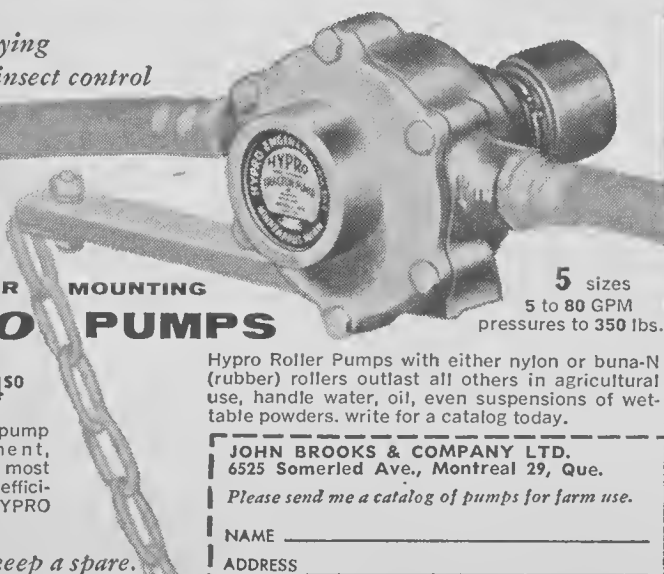
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HORTICULTURE

Recipe For Better Roses

HYBRID tea roses showed a clear improvement at Saanichton Experimental Farm, B.C., in 1957 and 1958. The blooming periods had two distinct flowering peaks, the first in June and an equally good one in September. The roses performed better and the mass effect was improved too.

These advances coincided with a stepped-up feeding, spraying and watering program, and they were all the more remarkable because the majority of the bushes were planted in 1952 or before, and were considered past their prime. This was the program:

Feeding. Compost applied March 20 at the rate of 4 large forks per bush, and worked in. A handful of Milorga-ite was given each bush both on March 20 and May 20. A quarter-pound of 6-8-6 fertilizer was applied to each bush on July 14.

Spraying. March 6: Ortho-Bordeaux, 3.2 oz. per gallon of water. April 30: Malathion liquid concentrate at 2 teaspoons plus 4/5 oz. of tribasic copper sulphate per gallon of water. May 21 and September 11: 0.6 oz. of Mildex plus 20 teaspoons of diazinon per 10 gallons of water. June 13, July 3, July 24, August 12, September 2, September 30: 20 teaspoons of diazinon per 10 gallons of water.

Watering. One inch of water (5 hours) on May 20, June 6, July 14, August 5 and August 27.

In addition, the basic jobs of spring pruning and weekly removal of old blooms were not forgotten.

Crabgrass Control in Lawns

CRABGRASS (finger grass) is one of the most persistent weeds in lawns. It appears in late June or July, and becomes more troublesome as the season advances. Here are some control methods recommended by the Ontario Department of Agriculture:

Crabgrass is an annual perpetuated by dormant seeds or new introductions. When cutting seed heads with a mower, rake first to make heads stand erect, catch clippings behind the mower and destroy them, preferably by composting.

Wild white clover forms a dense mat on the ground and helps to retard development of crabgrass. Spring and fall fertilization, and the seeding of thin and bare spots also help as control measures.

Avoid frequent light watering, which benefits the shallow-rooted crabgrass, but not the deep-rooted lawn grasses. Water about once a week in dry weather, so that the ground is wet down at least two inches.

Chemical controls include PMA applied according to instructions on the label, first as the crabgrass is emerging, with second and third treatments at 10-day intervals. If the crabgrass is headed out, potassium

cyanate is preferable to PMA, with two treatments two weeks apart. This will cause some browning of lawn grasses, but does no permanent harm.

Willoughby Black Currant

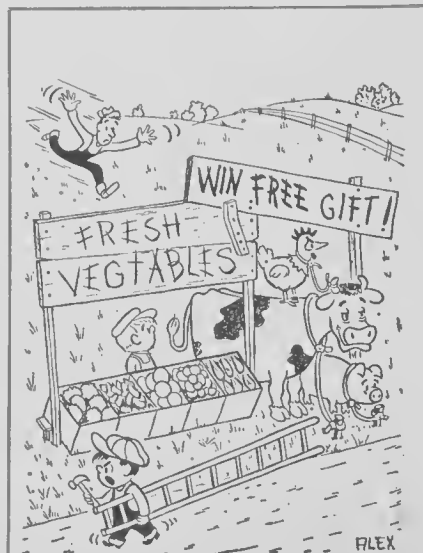
by PERCY H. WRIGHT

A VALUABLE new variety of black currant is now beginning to attract public attention. This variety has been named Willoughby, after the fruit grower of Parkside, Sask., who was responsible for its introduction. W. D. Willoughby purchased a number of plants, of one of the standard black currant varieties, and noticed that one among them differed from the others in being resistant to mildew, and in reliability of fruit production.

A. J. Porter, nurseryman of Parkside, later secured material of this plant and began to propagate it. He found that it was difficult to propagate by hardwood cuttings, and so had recourse to the much slower but much more reliable method of layering. By the fall of 1957 he had about 1,000 young plants of this variety. In his experience, it has all the merits that Mr. Willoughby claimed for it.

Black currants are often of low productivity because the stamens protrude a considerable distance beyond the pistils, so that pollination is difficult unless favorable weather for pollinating insects happens to prevail at blossom time. Other varieties have stamens and pistils of about the same length, and these are much more reliable in production. The Willoughby black currant belongs to the latter class.

The Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, has acquired this black currant, and is using it as a source of mildew resistance in its program of combining good qualities in one variety. The chief feature which it is sought to add to the Willoughby variety is resistance to the white pine blister rust. As this disease is not of importance in the prairie provinces, the Willoughby black currant may be regarded as "the last word."



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POULTRY

Trying Out Some New Ideas For Laying House



*Endless belt carries eggs
to feed room automatically.*



The windowless laying house measures 168' by 32', and holds 4,500 birds.

GEORGE EGAN, a partner in the Dixie and Egan feed mill at Addison in eastern Ontario, doesn't hope to build up a big poultry farm in the next few years.

"Selling feed is our business," he points out, "but many of our customers have laying flocks. New ideas for handling poultry are coming thick and fast nowadays, and we are frequently asked about these developments. We decided to try out a few of them ourselves so we can show just how they work."

Egan and John Creighton, a junior partner, designed it from ideas picked up on visits to other poultry farms. They built a quonset-style, windowless laying house 168' long by 32' wide, with a 13' crown, and installed wire floors. They raised 4,500 bred-to-lay birds right in the building and brought them into production. The birds have only one and a quarter square feet of floor space each.

The flock was up to 75 per cent production in early August and looked healthy and energetic.

"Some poultrymen say birds on wire won't be as thrifty as birds on litter," says George Egan. "They may be right, but we can't afford to pay the price of a building big enough to give birds that much space. Wire reduces overhead and takes some labor out of choring too."

Total cost of this new building, including the wages for two carpenters, but not the cost of nests or other equipment, was about \$1.25 per square foot.

There has been no trouble from the lack of windows so far either. Big ventilation windows are cut in each end of the house to provide the birds with sufficient air in any emergency, such as if the power goes off in hot weather. The normal ventilation system consists of four intake fans located along the crown of the roof. A large circular plywood panel hung just below each one breaks the draft.

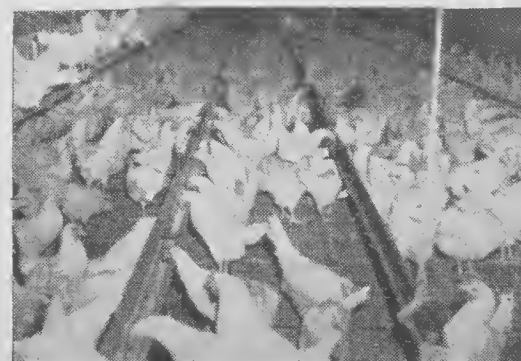
THIS laying house is fitted with two rows of steel nests set back to back down the center of the building. These are suspended from the ceiling to allow 2½' of clearance for the birds to walk underneath. A high peak prevents birds roosting on top of the nests, and allows more air inside.

A mechanical egg gatherer, consisting of an endless rubber belt, travels between the two rows of nests. The nest floors slope back, so the eggs roll down a plastic-coated wire frame onto the belt. The hens are prevented from moving onto the belt by the backs of the nests, but the eggs are carried right out to the feed room.

The building follows the good
(Please turn to page 57)

*Poultry are on wire
floor, with hanging
nests, mechanical
feeders and trough-
type waterers.*

[Guide photos]



ADVANCE FIELD REPORT FROM MF FARM REPORTER ON

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"It's like having an extra 2 acres of hay!"



"With my Massey-Ferguson No. 3 Baler I get more hay per acre than ever before" Canadian dairy farmer Donald Sills tells MF Farm Reporter Clare Burt.

"It's the clean way it picks up and the gentle way it handles my hay that makes the difference...not a single leaf gets spoiled!"

"But the No. 3 Baler not only saves all the valuable goodness in my hay . . . it's so completely trouble-free and simple to maintain it saves time and money, too!"

"Take the No. 3's sealed bearings for example," says Donald. "I lubricate only once a year now! That means extra time in the field each day . . . extra time for more and better hay!"

All over Canada more and more farmers are following Donald Sills' example and choosing the new Massey-Ferguson No. 3 Baler. Why not see your local Massey-Ferguson dealer and find out full details for yourself. Learn just what the No. 3 Baler (in P.T.O. or engine drive models) can do to increase your rich and profitable hay crop. Phone him now—see him first thing tomorrow!



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With baler unhitched, Donald Sills reports on the mechanism. "The knotter's fool-proof," he says, "even in the really heavy hay. And, with four balls of twine aboard I reckon I could tie a thousand bales straight off! As I see it, this No. 3 Baler has been built to work as efficiently as modern engineering know-how can make it!"

With pole-hitch centred the transport width is less than 8 feet—the slim, compact No. 3 Baler can slip easily through the narrowest gates and farm lanes. "It's really convenient to use," says Donald Sills. "And rugged too. At the end of a full season's work at top capacity it's as efficient and trouble-free as the day it started!"



Just twenty minutes work . . . a full load of hay! And what hay! Every one of those bales is packed tight with the leafy goodness that means better, more profitable feed for Donald Sills' cattle. And this is the sort of full load you can get all season through—whatever your size of farm—with the dependable Massey-Ferguson No. 3 Baler!



Donald Sills' MF 50 Tractor easily pulls the No. 3 Baler and wagon as over 250 tight bales are loaded per hour.





Massey-Ferguson No. 3 Baler—the fastest, finest low-cost baler today! It delivers up to 10 tons of well tied bales per hour—often more! Designed to handle hay gently from windrow to wagon, the No. 3 Baler keeps your hay rich and protein-packed.

And good handling is what your crops always get with Massey-Ferguson dependable harvesting equipment.

For every crop handling operation Massey-Ferguson provide the tools that give you the high-quality, protein-packed feed you need. And every tool is a cost-cutting time-saver . . . a tool designed and built to harvest your crop efficiently at its peak of perfection . . . exactly when you want it!

See your local Massey-Ferguson dealer for details and demonstrations —of the new *Massey-Ferguson mowers* . . . in particular, the all-new MF 31 Mower—the latest and most advanced mower in the field . . . with Dyna-Balance drive it operates at quiet high speeds in *any* position *and* it attaches to all 3-point hitches . . . smooth cutting models that cut clean even on the roughest ground! See, too, the world-famous *Massey-Ferguson rakes* that reduce crop handling and *push* hay into the fluffiest, fastest-curing windrows! And see the great Massey-Ferguson *No. 3 Baler* . . . the baler that gentles your hay into tight bales with a feather touch!

See for yourself why farmers right across Canada say: "Good crops deserve good handling and Massey-Ferguson equipment *assures it!*"

"Good crops deserve good handling"...



Famous Massey-Ferguson 36 Rake—turns 8 miles of fluffy windrows per hour! New-type delivery pushes hay sideways only half the distance of ordinary rakes. Rakes travel fast but hay is nudged gently with feather touch . . . not a single leaf is shattered or lost!

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MORE POWER TO THE FARMER



All-New Massey-Ferguson 31 Mower—with new exclusive Dyna-Balance drive that provides high speed operation . . . vibration-free and whisper-quiet. Variable speed drive means you can select the perfect, most efficient knife speed for *all* crop conditions. New MF 31 Mower operates in any bar position, attaches easily, without conversion kits, to any 3-point linkage!



Heavy Duty Massey-Ferguson 6 Mower—handles the biggest hay crops with speed and ease. It's the smoothest operating, cleanest cutting mower for any crop . . . and it's perfectly balanced in design to ensure even cutting in the roughest field conditions. Break-away release protects tractor and mower. Ruggedly built, the No. 6 Mower will give you steady mowing hour after hour, season after season.

MF 60 Forage Harvester and MF 51 BF Wagon—the all-new MF profit team! The MF 60 Flail-Type Forage Harvester earns its place on any farm with its amazing versatility and fast, easy, low-cost operation! The MF 51 Wagon has extra big capacity . . . rugged construction . . . fast, non-clogging unloading mechanism . . . countless features that speed your work!



POULTRY

(Continued from page 52)

poultry technique of providing plenty of feed and water space. A double row of automatic feeders stretches its full length on each side, with a single waterer running between each pair.

The method of construction used in the building is interesting too. A 6' concrete foundation was set 4' into the ground. Plywood rafters were made right on the site, using three layers of 5/8" plywood cut to the circular pattern. These were erected on 8' centers and sheathed with a layer of wallboard (ten-test was used). Then 2" by 4" stringers were laid over this on edge, along the length of the building, and covered with another layer of wallboard, to leave a 4" insulating air space. The building was finished with aluminum sheathing.

The windowless construction reduced costs, and gives complete control over the amount of light provided for the birds. The main problem, warns Egan, is to get the birds used to the lights going off so they don't panic. His birds got used to it when they were chicks.—D.R.B. ✓

Keep Poultry Working for You

ABOUT half of all poultry diseases are related to faulty nutrition and sanitation, which create a "happy hunting ground" for germs, says Dr. Victor Senior, the Saskatchewan provincial veterinarian. He quotes as an example the lack of green feed during the dry summer of 1958, which has been appearing in symptoms of vitamin A deficiency in poultry examined at the provincial laboratory.

Other deficiencies, such as in phosphorus, or when the phosphorus-calcium content of the ration is not properly balanced, can cause rickets, even when the supply of vitamin D is adequate. But the lack of vitamin D can also cause rickets, and a shortage of riboflavin can cause the disorder known as "curled-toe paralysis."

Sanitation plays an important part in eliminating conditions that cause coccidiosis in chickens and turkeys, and blackhead in turkeys. Dr. Senior also warns against allowing chickens and turkeys to run together, because the blackhead germ can survive in the egg of the caecal worm of hens. Furthermore, allowing turkeys and pigs to run together can result in an outbreak of erysipelas in turkeys.

These are just a few of the points to be considered in poultry management. There are many effective remedies, such as antibiotics and sulfa drugs, for tackling poultry diseases, but these cures can be costly and should not be allowed to take the place of good husbandry. ✓

Fungus Control Showing Promise

AN antibiotic called nystatin is being tested for its effect on a fungus organism thought to exist in about 25 to 30 per cent of chickens

and turkeys. At the 6th Annual Antibiotics Symposium in Washington, D.C., it was stated that the fungus, moniliasis, does not always cause infection and is rarely deadly, but it can weaken poultry, reduce egg-laying and meat gains, and increase their susceptibility to other infections.

Tests with the nystatin antibiotic, added to a chicken feed for young chicks, indicated that it was effective in preventing moniliasis. This was thought to be a possible explanation

for a gain in egg laying among hens previously given the antibiotic. It is not available for farm use at present. ✓

White Turkey Developed in Quebec

A NEW strain of turkey, the Charlevoix White, has been developed in Quebec by crossbreeding the native Charlevoix with Broad-Breasted Bronze, and mating the cross progeny to the Ryor White. Working together on the project over a number of years, Macdonald Col-

lege and the Quebec Department of Agriculture have taken the disease resistance of the Charlevoix, added the Bronze for size, and combined these qualities with the desirable white of the Ryor, which also has good body form and reproductive characteristics. In addition, the Bronze were selected for early maturity with a view to turkey broiler production. This was coupled with the Charlevoix's early maturing characteristic.

Breeding flocks of the Charlevoix White are maintained at the Provincial School Farm, La Gorgendiere, and at Macdonald College. ✓



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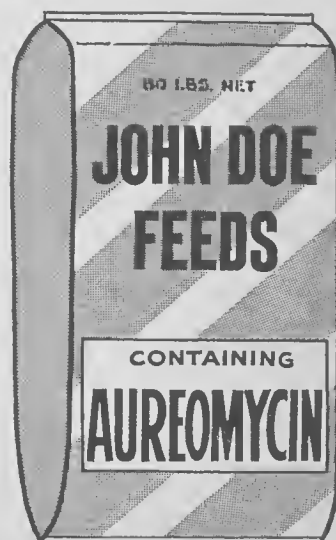
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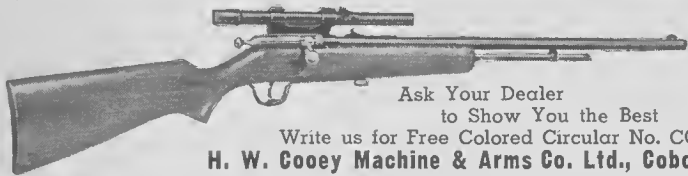
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POULTRY

Safe Brooding For Less Than 4¢ a Chick



Cecil Marshall lifts up the insulation to inspect the hot-water brooder.

WHEN Cecil Marshall sold his 3,000-bird laying flock a year ago and went into broiler production to lighten the work load around the farm, his first need was for extra brooding equipment. Starting 1,500 or 2,000 chicks every couple of weeks would be a different matter from starting a flock of pullets once a year. He wanted a brooding system that would be economical, safe and reliable.

"I had some propane brooders," he explains, "but they are dangerous and expensive to operate and I can't get insurance on buildings where they are used."

However, he found something that he likes better than propane. It's a cheaply constructed, electrically heated hot water brooder, with operating costs of only about 3½ cents per chick in the winter.

Marshall has three of them on his Marysville, N.B., farm now, and each one handles up to 2,000 chicks. Cost of installation, including the heavy wiring, was less than \$200 each, for no special furnace is required, nor is plumbing or running water needed.

The brooder consists simply of a grid of 1¼" black pipe connected to a 5-gallon drum which serves as a water reservoir. Six lengths of the pipe, each 22' long, are laid side by side to make up the grid. The pipes are joined to form a continuous circuit carrying the circulating water back and forth along their lengths. Heat is provided by a 3,000-watt element set

in at one end of the grid, and another 1,500-watt booster element set at the other end of the grid—half way around the circuit. The pipes must be correctly sloped to assure circulation.

The grid is supported about 12" off the floor by individual wooden stands set at each end and the middle. A light woven wire is laid over the pipes, followed by a layer of empty paper feed bags. This is covered with an insulating layer of shavings about 4" to 10" thick, which is held in place by a "collar" of boards around the edge.

An electric light bulb hung through the grid provides light for the chicks under the brooder.

This new type of brooder is winning fast popularity in the Maritime Provinces. It is being sold as a package by Capital Co-operative in Fredericton, and the cost of materials for one big enough to handle 1,500 to 2,000 chicks is about \$150.—D.R.B. V

Broilers on Performance Test

PERFORMANCE tests for broilers attracted entries from Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia and California, making 10 entries in all for a study that included records on mortality, feed conversion, grades and costs. The project was undertaken by the B.C. Department of Agriculture.

Mortality rates during the 10-week tests varied from 6 per cent to a peak of 15 per cent. Feed and management were the same, so mortality variation was attributed to breeding.

Average live weight at 10 weeks showed a difference ranging from 2.94 lb. to 3.71 lb., and this again was considered due to breeding.

Average feed conversion was 2.49 lb. on a combined male and female basis. The most efficient strains had a feed conversion of 2.43 lb.

Costs records were kept, but since heat, litter, depreciation and labor were uniform in all cases, these were not included. Returns per chick started, over chick and feed costs, varied from 7.71¢ to 18.8¢ for male and female combined. V



The brooder is cleaned before being prepared for another lot of chicks.

D6 CULTIVATES GUMBO—12 ACRES PER HOUR

for William Cummins, Kerrobert, Sask.

Tool-bar-mounted 32' Anderson flexible cultivator covers ground fast, stays at correct depth, folds up for transport. In spring, the D6 pulls two 15' seeder-disks. At other times, its Cot "Swing-Around" Tool Bar is used with a bulldozer blade for earthmoving, snow removal, etc.



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D4 CULTIVATES 100 ACRES PER DAY

for William Golbroith, Rosser, Manitoba

Heavy-duty 19' tool bar cultivator turns 100 acres of summer fallow block each day. Mr. Golbroith says, "I've farmed with wheels for years—now with the D4 I have more time for other work. I get good service from my Caterpillar Dealer."

D6 ONEWAYS 125 ACRES PER DAY

for Henry & Peter Lepp, Rivers, Manitoba

The D6 pulls two 16' disc tillers, covering 12–14 acres per hour. Lepp Brothers handle 2400 acres, with time left over for land clearing and custom drainage work.



D4 ROD-WEEDS 160 ACRES PER DAY

for Mike Meronik, Legend, Alberta

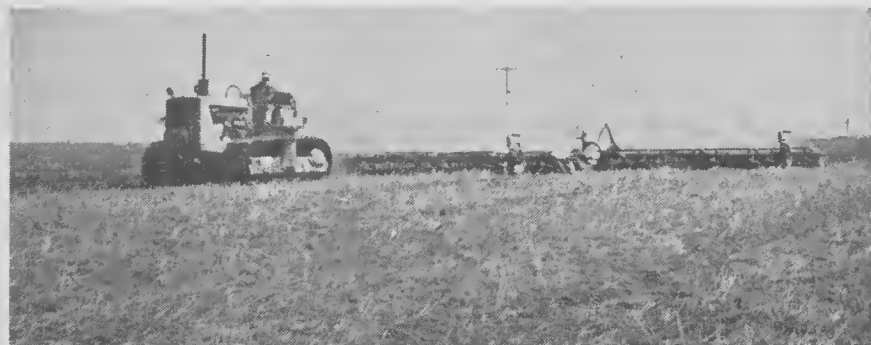
D4 pulls 36' of rod weeder in summer fallow. Two D4s and a wheel tractor handle the work on this 3,500 acre wheat ranch. Mr. Meronik reports, "I had a D6 for 18 years, and now have two Cat D4 Tractors. One has run for six years; we've never touched it with a wrench."

How do these examples compare with the production, economy and workability of your present tractor? Think it over—then call your Caterpillar Dealer. He will show you how to put your farm power program in top shape for all-season work!

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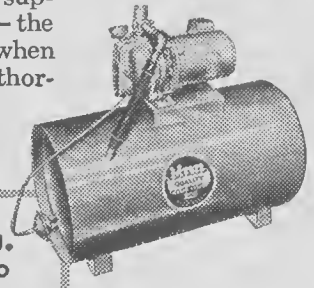


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Handy ideas and tips for practical farmers

Takes the Grinder with Him

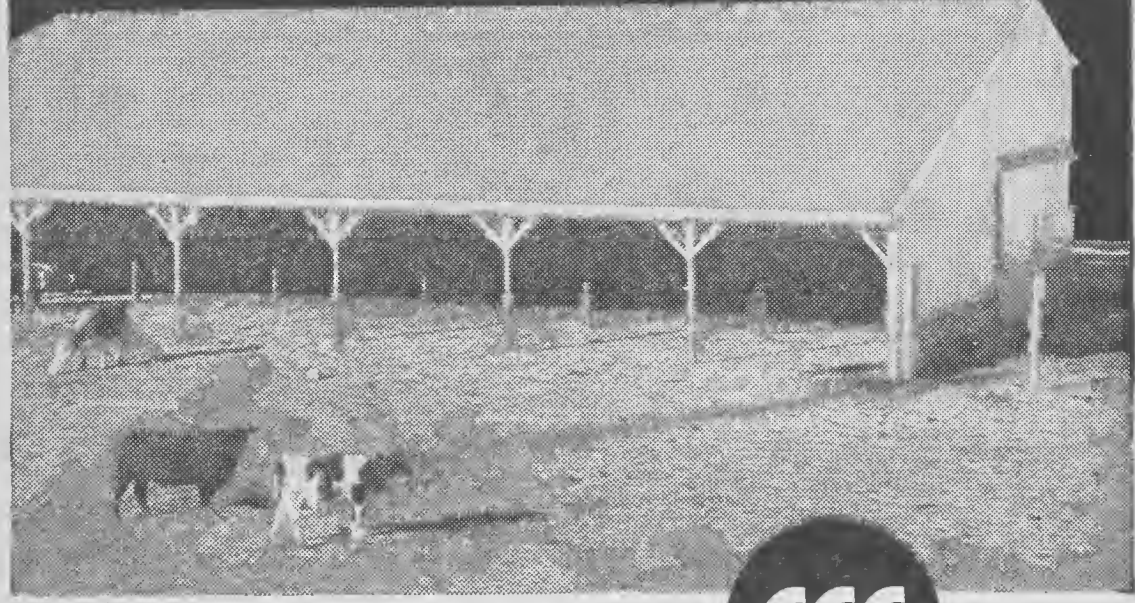


[Guide photo]

THIS portable feed grinder, built by Kelso Simpson for his farm at Ridgetown, Ont., is in use every day of the week, and has been for years. It is grinding about 5 tons a week now, enough for a 75-sow swine herd, 500 market hogs, and 90 steers.

It consists of a running gear which he made himself, a hammermill coupled to the power take-off of the tractor, and a half ton mixer. Simpson added an auger from an old bean thresher, so he can fill the outdoor hog feeders.—D.R.B.

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More Water Needs More Power

CHANGES in an irrigation sprinkler system should be made with care, whether it is adding more sprinklers or modifying existing equipment to provide higher or more uniform rate of application. Unless provision for expansion was made in the original design, the effect of such changes needs to be studied. The following advice comes from the Lethbridge Experimental Farm, Alta.

The addition of more sprinkler lines will require increased pressure and a larger volume of water, which will have to be met by the pumping unit. It is quite possible the pump will be able to deliver more water at a higher pressure, although it may have to operate in a less efficient range. The horsepower, however, will be increased considerably, and here there is a danger of overloading the power unit. This may be particularly noticeable in power take-off units because they have less power reserve available. Any misalignment of the power take-off shafting, either horizontal or vertical, also induces considerably increased stresses.

Under overloaded conditions, failure will occur in the weakest part of the power train. Repair costs, although important, will be very secondary compared to the loss of revenue resulting from delays in the irrigation schedule and poor irrigation of the crop.

Another problem, equally serious, may arise from the inability of the pumping unit to give a satisfactory operating pressure throughout the full length of the sprinkler line. This again reduces the profits at harvest time through inferior irrigation.

FARM MECHANICS

Choosing Farm Equipment

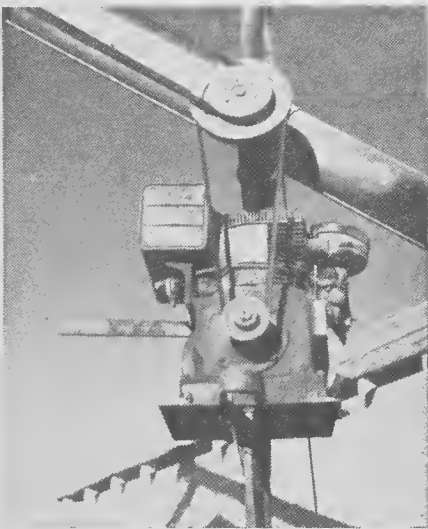
THE first thing to consider when selecting farm implements is the type of tractor used. The equipment should be suitable for mounting on, or being pulled or driven by the tractor. If more than one tractor is used, both should be kept in mind for different types of equipment needed to completely mechanize the farm.

Prof. C. G. Downing of Ontario Agricultural College points out that if equipment is too large for the tractor, it will overload the tractor engine and cause premature wear and breakdown, high maintenance costs and a poor job. If equipment is too small, fuel is wasted and there is a danger of working at excessive speeds.

If a farmer has a relatively small acreage, says Professor Downing, it may be more economical to have it farmed by custom arrangements, rather than buy an expensive piece of equipment. The equipment should be used as much as possible during any particular season, which means that it is better to use it for 100 hours during a year than for 10 hours a year for 10 years. Machines deteriorate to some extent when not in use, through exposure to weather or corrosion, and they may become obsolete over a period because a new machine comes along to do the job more efficiently.

These are the basic considerations to have in mind when purchasing equipment. ✓

Gas Motor Around the Farm



[Guide photo]

DAVE ABRAHAM uses this small, air-cooled gasoline motor to operate a grain auger on his farm at Balzac, Alta. It shows one of the many uses for this type of motor around the farm, especially where electric power is not available. ✓

Equipment On the Roads

A TIMELY warning comes from C. Cheshire, extension engineer, Alberta Department of Agriculture. He says that the busy farmer will often travel with farm equipment on the highway or road before sunrise or after sunset. If his equipment is not lighted adequately, or protected with reflectors, flags or other means of warn-

ing approaching motorists, he sets himself up as a potential accident victim. Give the other fellow a chance to see you in good time.

Another road hazard is side tipping into the ditch. Sometimes it's because the tractor driver can't see properly, or he may be crowding the shoulder too closely while trying to let traffic pass him. Whether this happens, or the accident is a collision, statistics show that it is practically always the tractor driver who is maimed or killed. ✓

Tips for Tractor Drivers

KEEP the tractor right side up by following some simple rules published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture:

1. Stay at safe distances from ditches and creek banks that might cave, and go carefully along steep slopes.
2. Avoid excessive speeds. More than 5 m.p.h. is dangerous in field work, especially on stoney or rough ground. Slow down when crossing ditches or turning.

3. Keep controls in good condition, especially clutch and brakes.
4. Space rear wheels out as far as tractor operations permit, in order to improve the stability of the tractor.
5. Do not drive up excessively steep grades.
6. Engage the clutch slowly when pulling out of ditches or up steep slopes.
7. Lock brake pedals together, if possible, when traveling in road gear.
8. Never allow extra riders on the tractor or the drawn implement. ✓



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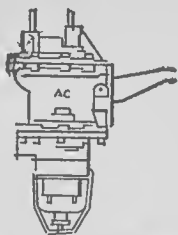
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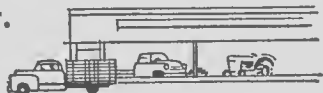


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Homemade Forage Combine



George Matthews with
his harvester. The
bucket-like parts at
left were from
a corn picker.

[Gulde photos]

IT doesn't do a farmer any harm to
be handy with a welding outfit.

When George Matthews of Hardisty, Alta., decided to cut labor costs by putting up his winter feed as silage, he also decided to try his hand at making a combined forage harvester and power wagon which would take much of the labor out of the business.

By using parts from a stationary hammer mill, corn picker, binder, and combine, George was able to come up with a compact forage harvester which he then mounted on the forward end of an old truck body. At the rear of the chassis he built a plywood forage box forming a single harvesting unit which maneuvers easily on the steep slopes of the 800-acre Matthews' farm behind George's new 40 h.p. tractor.

Driven from the tractor's power take-off, the machine can pick up a windrow of hay or straw, cut it and blow it into the wagon box as efficiently as any factory model. It is designed to unload into a hayloft, bunker silo or pit silo. Unloading into the first two is accomplished by a revolving canvas belt on the deck of the wagon which feeds forage back through the machine and out the blower. When a pit silo is to be filled, George engages a belt which operates a hoist that lifts the wagon's left side.

As the box tips, the right side swings open allowing the cut feed to slide into the pit. This system is also used for cleaning out the wagon.

In an average year, George Matthews runs a commercial beef herd of 40 to 50 head, and generally buys about 30 calves each fall to feed over winter. Just about anything grown on the farm makes good silage, he finds. A favorite mixture is chopped "prairie wool" blown in on a load of oat straw.—C.V.F. V

How to Help The Seed Drill

SEEDING grass can result in the drill plugging or seeding being uneven, especially when using brome or mixtures high in brome. An important first step is to use high quality seed, free of stems and other material that can plug the drill, but this will not eliminate all the problems.

At the North Dakota Agricultural College they have mixed 10 to 20 lb. of ground corn per 100 lb. of grass seed. A medium grind works best, and it should work equally well with ground wheat or other grains. This method has helped considerably in getting an even seeding with the minimum of trouble. V



Note the truck chassis
and pick-up from
a combine. Dual wheels
on right side steady
wagon while box
is being tipped.



When tipped, right
side of wagon swings
open to allow forage
to slide into pit.
Here device is used
to clean out the wagon.

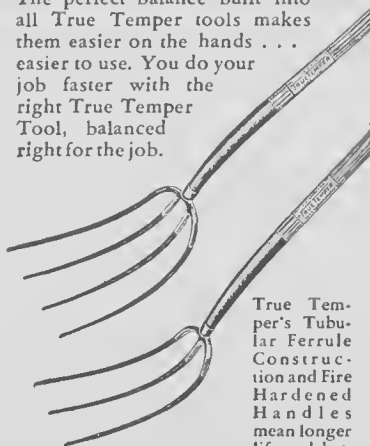
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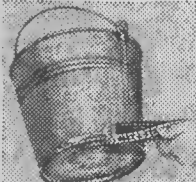


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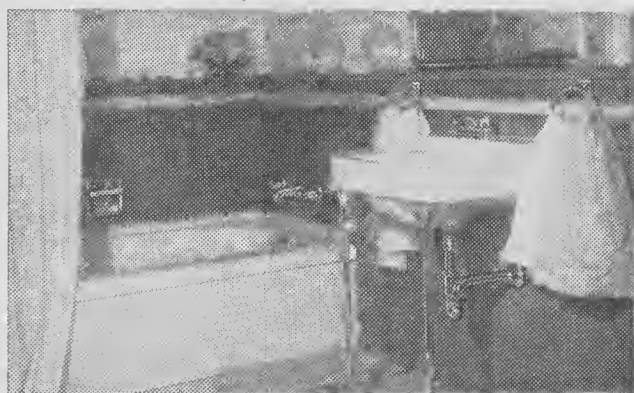
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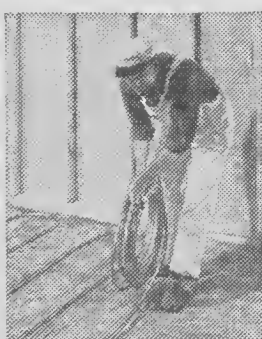
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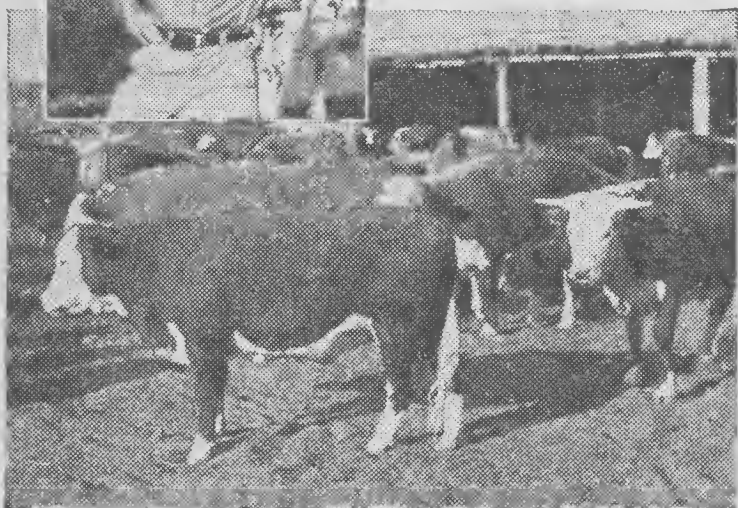
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"I find Gillett's is fast, effective and simple"



STUART A. SCHARF,
MOOSE JAW,
SASKATCHEWAN



A few of the beef cattle on Stuart Scharf's 960-acre farm at Moose Jaw. For cleaning up, he depends on Gillett's Lye.

Mr. Scharf is a beef cattle feeder, operating a feed lot with a capacity of 2000 head per year. To cut down chances of disease, Mr. Scharf depends on Gillett's Lye.

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FARM BUILDINGS

Low Cost Building Material

by L. J. SMITH

IN a recent trip to the United States' Mid-West, I saw a number of farm buildings where the frames were made chiefly of rough material from local woodlots. The rafters were of poles, and the framing was of heavier material.

One of these was a large barn with ample hay loft. Another was a large implement shed. There often is good second growth down on the river bottoms, just right for framing purposes.

Figure 1 shows a typical home grown post supporting the girder above, being well braced laterally with 2" by 6" lumber as shown at B-B. These run along the rear of the shed, the girders being held strongly together by short steel plates with four bolts. Pieces of old wagon tires would do very well.

Usually, the front posts rest on concrete as at C, being held in place by heavy iron as shown. Then, the tops of these strong posts are fastened securely to the girder by means of steel plates as at P. Diagonal braces would not do along the front of the shed, because they would interfere with getting larger machines into the shelter.

Details of side, corner and rear framing are seen in figure 2. Horizontal 2" by 6" or 8" lumber is notched into the posts as at N, and vertical wide boards are used for siding, with batten boards for covering the cracks. The corner posts are also notched to take the horizontal pieces, and have diagonal braces well spiked in place. Bolts would be better in exposed windy country.

A pattern trough (figure 3) can easily be made to hold the rafter poles as they are sawed for the upper cut, where they meet, and the notched seat cut, where they rest on the front and rear plates. They can be clamped in place easily for cutting. With two men working on this job, the work moves along pretty fast.

By the use of local grown material, the cost of a farm building can be cut to a minimum. Much of this

material can be taken out at odd times when the owner is not too busy. V

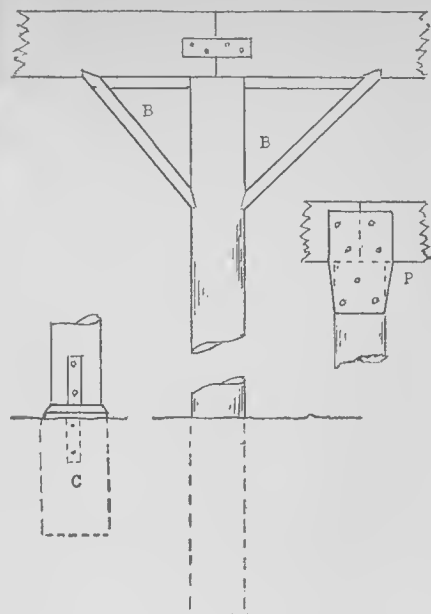


Figure 1—Pole framing.

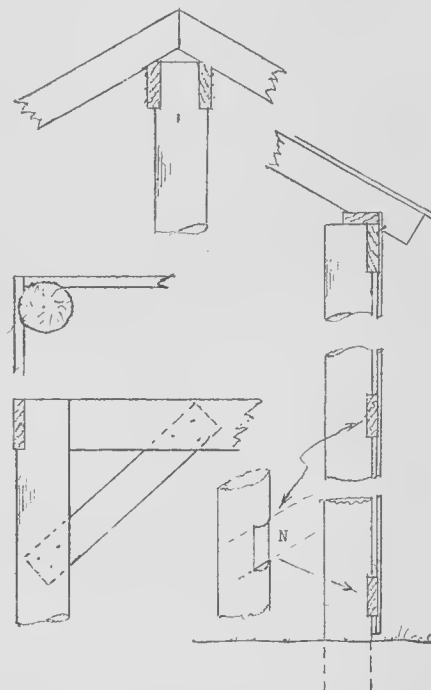


Figure 2—Pole framing.

Treated Posts

WHEN buying pressure treated fence posts, don't mistake petroleum treated posts for pressure creosoted posts, says J. A. Peck, farm mechanics specialist with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Both creosote and zinc chloride treatments are superior to raw petroleum oil for preserving posts. Used oil can prevent zinc chloride from leaching out of fence posts, but this is not the same method of treatment as using petroleum oil alone. V

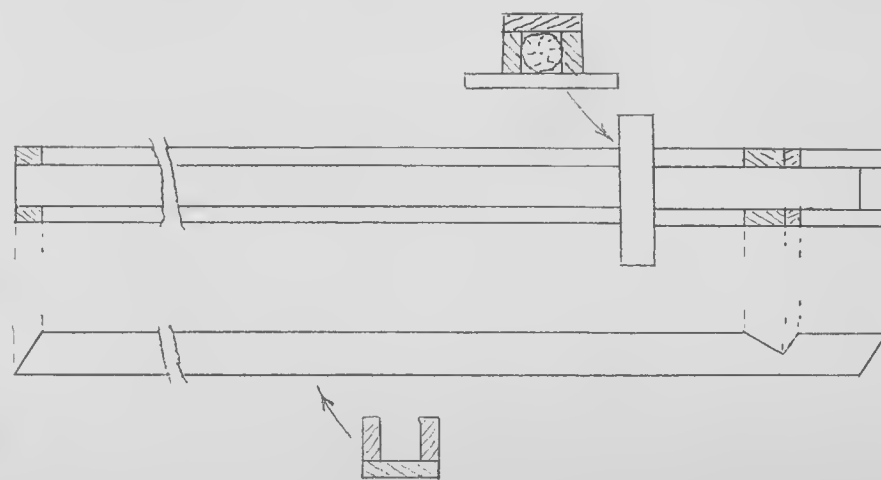
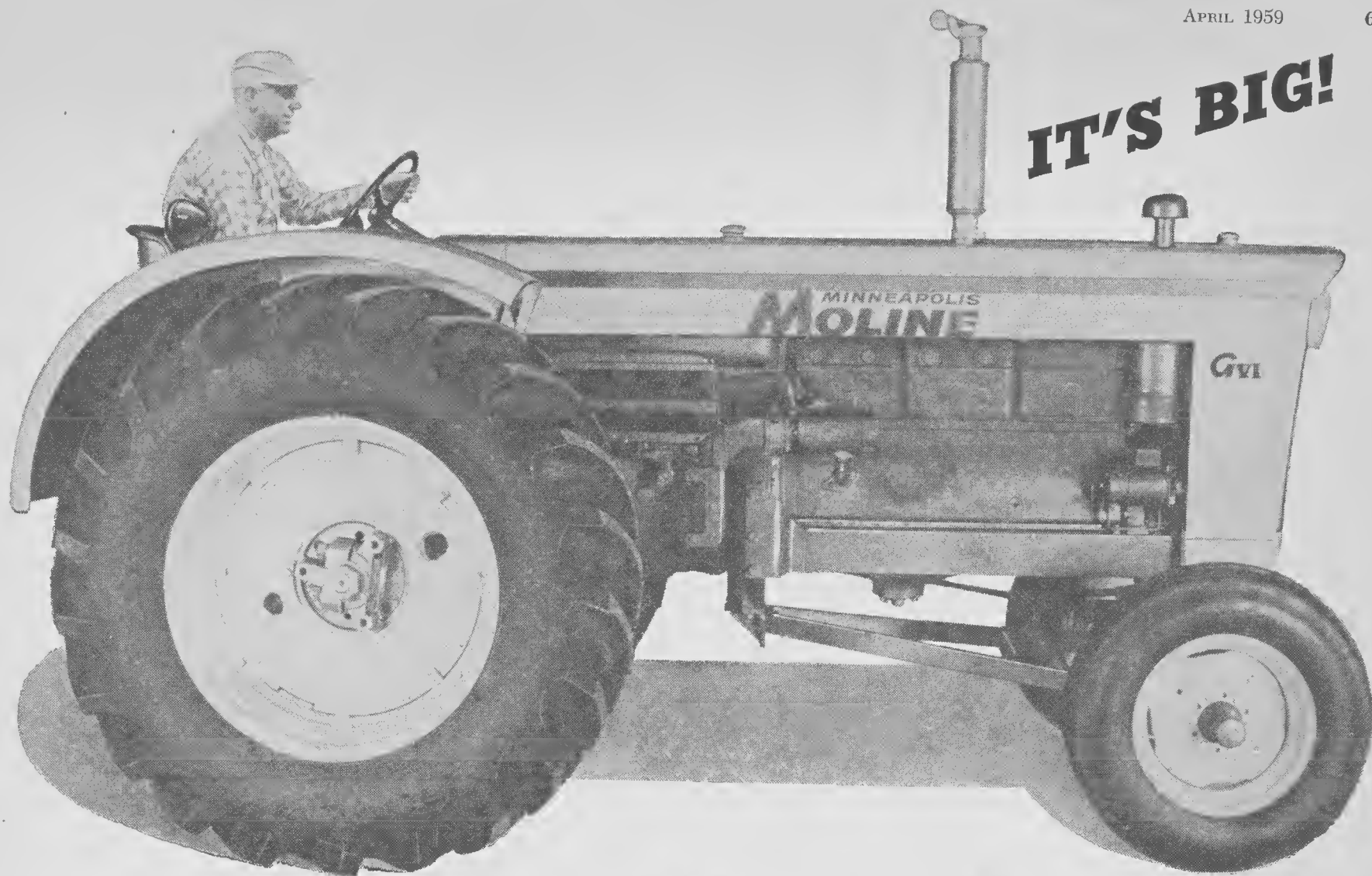


Figure 3—Pattern trough.



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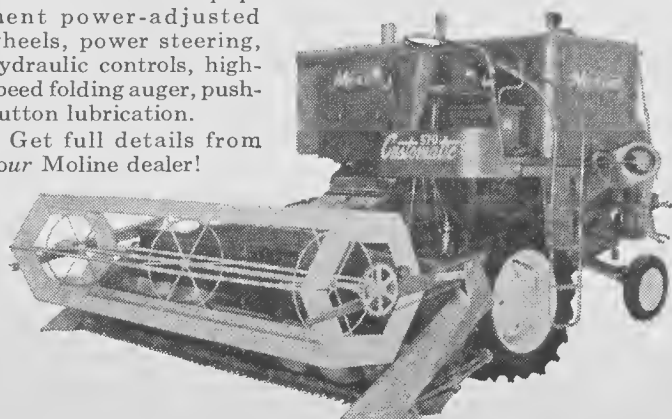
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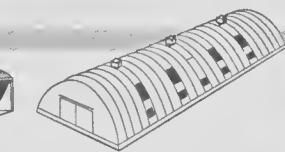
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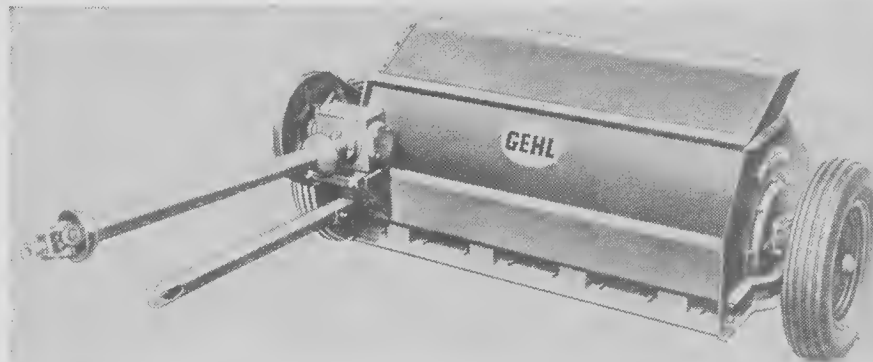


Economy Sprayers

This line includes a tractor-mounted, 2-barrel model; a 3-barrel trailer; and a 185-gallon tank trailer sprayer. Features are 2- and 3-piece booms in 21' to 31' lengths, 1" diameter, and breakaway hinges for booms. (The Farmhand Company). (248) ✓



"Clean-Cut" Shredder



Designed for shredding corn stalks, vines and cover crops; clearing weeds, brush and orchard prunings; topping sugar beets and other crops; and also mulching, this implement has overlapping steel knives with replaceable and reversible cutting tips. Adjustable shear bar is optional. (Gehl Bros. Manufacturing Co.) (249) ✓

Water-Repellent Fill

This new insulating fill for masonry is claimed to eliminate moisture and condensation in block and cavity walls, keep livestock buildings up to 50 per cent warmer in winter, and much cooler in summer. It is easy material to handle. (Zonolite Company). (250) ✓



For further information about any item mentioned in "What's New," write to WHAT'S NEW Department, The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man., giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

Continued from page 20

WEED CONTROL

absorbed through the foliage as well as the roots, and appears to be more effective than the former against perennial weeds such as couchgrass and Canada thistle. Suggested application rate is up to 2 pounds for broad-leaved weeds and up to 6 pounds for grasses. This chemical is harmful to potatoes.

4. ETPC (Eptam)— Registered in U.S.

This is a pre-emergence herbicide which will attack most annual grasses and broad-leaved weeds, as well as perennials such as couchgrass and Johnson grass. It can be used on beans, corn, cabbages, cauliflowers,

carrots, turnips, asparagus, potatoes, strawberries, flax and nursery stock, but it is toxic to lettuce and will injure grass seedlings. This compound is a dithiocarbamate, and comes in both liquid and granular form. Application rate is about 3 pounds per acre, well incorporated into the soil when the crop is planted. Tests to date indicate EPTC might prove an effective weed controller in sugar beets.

5. Amoben and Dinoben— Registered in U.S.

These new pre-emergence weedicides belong to the benzoic group of chemicals. A third compound of the

same group, Fenac, hasn't been registered yet but is undergoing tests south of the border. Most perennial weeds, such as toadflax, field bindweed, leafy spurge, Russian knapweed, absinthe, couchgrass and Canada thistle are attacked by these chemicals which are available for experimental use in Canada.

6. MCPB and 2,4-DB—

Now registered for use here.

These post-emergence herbicides are now available to the Canadian farmer for control of a wide range of annual and perennial weeds in alfalfa and clover crops, meadows and pastures. Applied at the rate of 2 pints (3 pints if weeds are past seedling stage) of the chemical in 20 gallons of water per acre, 2,4-DB is an effective weed killer in seedling alfalfa, or where alfalfa has been undersown in a cereal crop. MCPB applied at the same rate is effective on clovers, very young cereals, peas and celery.

Spraying 2,4-DB is done right after the first alfalfa leaf stage, or, if used under a cereal crop, when the cereal has five fully expanded leaves. MCPB is put on clovers any time after the primary leaf, or, in the case of celery, after 1 week's planting out.

Some Recommendations for Old Ones

Annual Weeds

PENDING further developments in the chemical control field, cultivation, delayed seeding and sowing of green feed crops (such as oats) are still the best bets for wild oat control. The crops should be cut for forage before the wild oats are properly headed out. Cultural methods should be continued over a period of years, and care must be taken that they are carried out at the proper time. Fields shouldn't be tilled for wild oat control under cool, moist conditions before the seeds have had a chance to dry out.

The sodium salt of TCA at 4 to 6 lb. per acre can be used to kill green foxtail in flax and field peas, but should not be used in cereal grains or canning peas. Dalapon at 12 oz. per acre in coarse textured soils, and up to 24 oz. per acre in fine textured soils, can be used to control green foxtail in flax. The sodium salt of TCA may also be used to control this grass in sugar beets, the application of 5 to 10 lb. per acre being made 1 or 2 days before or after seeding the sugar beets. Until proven otherwise, it is assumed that controls suggested for green foxtail also apply to barnyard grass.

In the chemical control of wild buckwheat there is little change. It is important that the weed be treated with an ester of 2,4-D when in the first and second true-leaf stage. Fields of wheat and barley show the best results when two treatments are applied 1 week apart at 5 oz. per acre. For oats, the same treatment is effective using an ester of MCPA instead of 2,4-D. In years when the weed reached the one-two leaf stage before the grain crop can be safely treated, you should also use an ester of MCPA instead of 2,4-D as less damage will be done to the crop.

Control methods for tartary buckwheat and other annuals remain about the same.

Perennial Weeds

CULTIVATION is still the only feasible means of controlling field infestations of that perennial troublemaker, couchgrass. In sub-humid regions, cultivation should start just before freeze-up, and deep, thorough tillage is required. In the following year it should be continued when the grass is about 2 inches high, and repeated throughout the summer whenever regrowth appears.

Chemicals are useful for wiping out couchgrass patches where sterilization of the soil for one or more years won't cause any loss or harm. Strong soil sterilants, such as sodium chlorate, may be applied at any time (though fall is best) at 1 to 2 lb. per 100 sq. ft. Applying it in a dry form is just as effective as in a water spray, and is much less dangerous. A lower application rate ($\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per 100 sq. ft.) may be used in warm, moist regions.

If Monuron is used, cultivation at the time of application reduces its effectiveness, but cultivation a year after application increases the chemical's effectiveness.

A temporary soil sterilant, such as the sodium salt of TCA, is best applied in the fall at 3 to 4 oz. per 100 sq. ft. on undisturbed sod, and 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per 100 sq. ft. when combined with a thorough cultivation (plow or 1-way disk). This is most effective in humid, warm climates, and cultivation before application is better than after. Other chemicals like dalapon and ATA at light rates are still giving good control with little residual effects to the soil.

Good couchgrass control in shelterbelts and around mature apple or pear trees may be obtained with little or no injury by applying 2 dosages of dalapon at $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. per 100 sq. ft. about 1 month to 6 weeks apart, or when regrowth of the grass is 6 to 8 inches high. ATA at $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per 100 sq. ft., put on when couchgrass is in rapid growth and followed by tillage 3 weeks later, has given good control in the Okanagan.

Soil sterilant chemicals can be used to eliminate small patches of leafy spurge. Borate-2,4-D-Monuron (BDM) at $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. per 100 sq. ft. for light textured soils and 2-3 lb. per 100 sq. ft. for heavy textured soils, or Chlorate-borate-Monuron (CBM) and borates at 3 to 4 lb. per 100 sq. ft. will usually wipe out this weed, although follow-up doses may be required to kill surviving plants.

Farmers using soil sterilants are cautioned that these chemicals should never be allowed to move via irrigation water or ground water to other areas where they might cause trouble.

Good top growth control of Canada thistle can be attained in wheat, oat, barley and flax crops with 2,4-D and MCPA esters applied at maximum rates for the crop in question when the thistle is nearing the bud stage. ATA at 6 to 8 lb. per acre applied at full bloom stage, followed by tillage when the plants have become well bleached, gives a fairly complete kill. However, on heavy-textured soils there is often enough carry-over of the chemical to reduce grain yields the following year.

Recommendations for chemical control of most other perennial weeds remain much the same as last year

WEANS OVER 9.4 PIGS PER LITTER

WEANING WEIGHTS UP 7 LBS. with Imposil

says Ontario hog raiser

GEOFFREY J. BOYES

manager of

Clearbrook Farm, Caledon



But originally his results weren't so good because of constant trouble with baby pig anemia—a serious matter for Mr. Boyes with his herd of 30 purebred Yorkshires. All attempts to wipe out anemia failed until he used Imposil. The results were dramatic.

Explained Mr. Boyes: "All hog raisers know that pig anemia is caused by a lack of iron. And in concrete-floored pens like ours anemia is worse. I tried all sorts of iron pastes, powders and tablets with little result—and besides, weekly treatments took far too much time."

Then Mr. Boyes was offered the chance to field-test Imposil before

it was marketed in Canada. Imposil is the new, stronger, fully absorbed iron injection. "I gave each pig a single 2 c.c. shot of Imposil at 3 days of age. It only took about 10 minutes to do a litter. In a few days I knew my anemia troubles were over.



"Since then I've used Imposil on every litter and never once have I seen a sign of anemia or anemic scours. What's more, the average weaning weights at 8 weeks have gone up from 30 to 37 lbs."

Research has shown that a lack of iron not only slows down growth, but also lowers a pig's resistance to disease. Imposil was developed to provide young pigs with all the iron they need—even pigs that are slow to creep feed.

Said Mr. Boyes: "Our sows have farrowed an average of 10 pigs per litter and since we started using Imposil we've had no trouble at all. Proof is in the weaning figures—an average of over 9.4 pigs per litter."



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including applications of herbicides for special crops. Reports from the Pacific Coast indicate that 2,4-D is no longer being used on strawberries because of injury to the plants.

For more specific details, farmers should contact the nearest university, experimental farm, agricultural representative or district agriculturist.—C.V.F. V

Continued from page 18

CORN SILAGE

1 year grain, and 1 year grass and legumes. Some fields are left an extra year in grass.

Since it is so important to mature the corn before a killing frost hits, he grows early maturing varieties. About 25 acres each of 100-, 110- and 120-day corn are seeded. "It's not like hay," he cautions, "where the earlier it's cut the better the feed. It must be ripe and well dented." He buys from \$1,000 to \$1,500 worth of fertilizer, and most of it goes to the corn crop.

Robertson purchases 275 calves (as corn yields have been going up each year, he has been buying more cattle), weighing from 350 to 450 pounds, from the West in the fall. He brings them right into the feedlot, and to stimulate their appetites and get them eating silage in a day or two, he feeds them an antibiotic supplement for 10 days. Within 2 weeks they are well onto the feed, if there has been no serious shipping fever. If sickness symptoms do develop then or later, he immediately injects the lagging animals with antibiotics to bring them back onto feed within 24 hours.

The calves are fed in two sets of buildings. One lot of 150 go into a 92' by 54' pole barn with an open yard in front, and a manger around two sides. Another 125 go into the

converted dairy barn. Most of these are fed outside in the fence-row manger, but a few are hand-fed inside. A concrete apron extends along the feed manger in both outside lots, while the remaining area is kept dry with corn cobs. His system of power-feeding in the rail-fence mangers has been satisfactory, despite the heavy snowfall characteristic of his "snow-belt" area farm.

He feeds calves about 3 to 4 pounds of hay per day, 1 pound of grain (western grain or southern Ontario or U.S.-grown corn, depending on price) and about 1½ pounds of a 32 per cent protein concentrate per day for the first few months, as well as all the corn silage they will eat. A mineral mixture of bone meal and salt is before them all the time too.

Three months before the cattle are to be sold, the 1½ pounds of grain is increased to 4 pounds. A month later this is increased to 6, and in the final month, to 8 pounds. Through this program, he gets a gain of about 500 pounds on the calves, and last year, 60 per cent of them graded red brand, the remainder blue.

ECONOMICAL rations are the chief feature in Robertson's program. But other costs must be kept down too.

His pole barn and feedlot were inexpensive to build, and they provide healthy, convenient accommodation for the steers. Feed storage costs are kept low also, by the use of horizontal silos. His main pit silo, a concrete-walled-and-floored one measuring 26 by 72 feet has capacity for 25 acres of corn. Another larger one with only a concrete floor and earth walls, holds still more. He built both of these himself.

A tractor-mounted, front-end loader is used to fill the power-box feeder; the concentrate mixture is added, and feeding is then mechanical.

He shares equipment with his brother Bill, and between them, they have two good tractors and two older models which are useful for lighter work such as hauling wagons and packing corn in the silo.

He also requires a heavy duty forage harvester fitted with both the corn and hay noses, and two power spreaders for harvesting corn, one of which is converted for bunk feeding.

A 4-man crew—1 on the harvester, 2 men hauling, and 1 man leveling and packing in the silo—harvests the crop.

He also has cultivating and seeding equipment on the farm.

Robertson is a stickler for details, and he credits this with helping to keep his costs down. For instance:

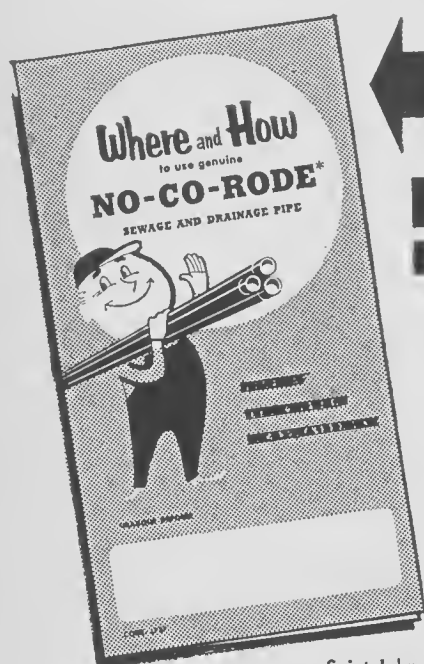
- He feeds calves because they are more efficient converters of feed to meat than are older animals.

- He sprayed everything with a systemic insecticide last fall, and found it controlled warbles and lice too.

- He keeps calves comfortable with plenty of bedding.

- He sells on a dressed weight basis, knowing his cattle will grade out well.

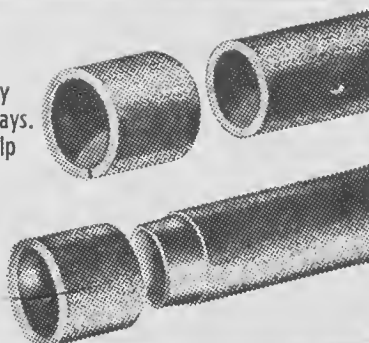
In assessing his beef production program, George Robertson still shakes his head a little at how successful it has been. "It's amazing," he says, "how much beef you can produce when you take 80 or 90 acres of corn silage, balance up the ration, and feed it to good calves." V



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RANGER OF SUN DANCE

A serial in four parts

by JOHN PATRICK GILLESE



"The coming of the wolf pack scarcely seemed to perturb the Old One."

across the draw, the belt of thunder smacked across the hills. Even before the echoes died, he was following the Old One, slipping like a shadow through the pines, circling, then cutting fast toward the timberline.

Not till the snows were deep did the Old One descend again. Whole herds came together, "yarding up" in the great meadows, sheltering in the scrub pines from the winter winds.

A FULL year later, Hammerhorn himself was locking heads with other young bulls. His antlers were closer than average, and it gave him an astonishing advantage: he could penetrate the heavy guard of bulls far bigger than himself, inflicting shattering pain.

Such duelling — as the two-year-old discovered soon—was more than a mere exhibition of strength. It broke up the herds, ensuring that the smaller bands had courageous and capable leaders, and it was training for survival against age-old enemies.

On a morning when the snow lay deep in the basins, a wolf-pack came down from the peaks. Their yapping sent thrills of fear through Hammerhorn, but it scarcely seemed to perturb the Old One.

Still chewing cud, he planted himself in the open, pawing till the ground was bare, for grip. The cows and young, Hammerhorn with them, moved in behind him. A bull with royal-points that rivalled the Old One's, likewise turned his back to the cows. Other bulls took position in the circle, pawing.

The wolf-pack, tearing through the drifts, stopped short in a cloud of loose snow. Once only they circled the fortress of amber antlers glinting in the December sun. The Old One pawed his challenge, but the pack-leader gave a short yip—and his raiders streaked on, seeking less formidable prey on the bottoms.

Several times later in the winter—when the elk had shed their crowns—wolves came back. With their great top-weight gone, the elk were fleet; and their long legs cleared the deep drifts that bogged the wolf-pack down.

When he could, Hammerhorn stayed close to the Old One, who invariably stopped on the shelf east of Pawn's Peak. The backdrop of gorge cut off attack from the rear; and more than one wolf, trying to tear open the great elk's throat, perished under hooves as sharp as lances.

Not all were lucky. Hammerhorn saw the gray killers feeding often, usually on a lone elk that they had surrounded in the open. The gray, bristle-like hair rose on his back.

Hate erupted again the day he wandered west of Pawn's Peak and suddenly came upon a huge grizzly feeding on a dead cow. With a snort, he leaped in the air and recoiled. He snorted again; and his front feet stabbed downwards together, clattering the pebbles of the hillside.

Unused to such insolence, Crazyfoot rose upright. Despite the humped chocolate shoulders, the grizzly stood eight feet high. No elk could meet him in frontal attack; the clubbed hands would strike above the antlers and break his neck. Hammerhorn snorted again; then plunged deep into the pine-scented thickets, till the strange obsession to attack worked out of his being.

Shortly after that, the elk lost their social yearnings. The bulls spent the days feeding and sleeping, rebuilding their strength for whatever might threaten the herds in winter. The cows, soft-eyed and swollen, preoccupied themselves with the business of birth again.

Strange loneliness sent Hammerhorn wandering down from the high hills. Cutting toward Open

JODER, the ranger of Sun Dance, rescues a baby bull elk whose mother is killed by a grizzly called Crazyfoot. He takes it to his cabin, and with the help of Ken Currie, the boy from a local ranch, persuades the bull calf to drink from a baby bottle. Hammerhorn, as he is called, grows and learns fast. He ventures out of the cabin and waits there while Joder goes up to the hills.

Joder sets traps for the grizzly, and then lies in wait for him with a gun. Crazyfoot is aware of his danger and stays away. Hammerhorn follows Joder into the hills during the summer, but refuses to join a herd of elk. By fall, the ranger figures the young elk must be ready to be with his own kind, so he takes him to the Old One, the wisest elk in the hills. "This time, little Hammerhorn, good-by," he says, and his throat is dry.

Part III

FOR long minutes after the man had gone, Hammerhorn stood on the sun-dried bottoms, torn between apprehension of the Old One, stepping down from the rimrock, and a deep herd-instinct he had no way of understanding.

With a grunt, the Old One tossed his massive rack and came closer, regarding Hammerhorn balefully from red-rimmed agate eyes.

But the young bull need not have worried. It was the time for regrouping; the Old One could not tell one calf from another. After awhile, Hammerhorn took his place with the dozen cows and the scattering of younger elk that formed the Old One's

family band. It was a wild, exciting thing to be with them—bedding down on the earth-warm south slopes, browsing at will about the basins, listening in fascination to the bugles blaring in the distant hills.

Occasionally some arrogant bull moved in to challenge the Old One. The docile cows were indifferent to the short, savage battles; but Hammerhorn responded with excitement, tossing his own head in imitation of the way the Old One heavily locked antlers and, after a few punishing thrusts, twisted the challenger off his feet.

Once, filled with admiration, Hammerhorn moved closer to the mighty leader, but the Old One stopped his cropping and uttered a short bellow that sent Hammerhorn leaping back to the motherly atmosphere of the harem. The Old One turned and studied him, still baleful, but with almost a glint of amusement in his eyes.

The mating bugles blared no more in November, and stillness—broken only by occasional commands from the older bull bosses—lay over the stripped Sun Dance Hills. With the first snow, a marked wariness came over the adult bulls. Hammerhorn did not know it, but the hunting season was at hand.

When the elk went down to feed, it was always in single file, an old cow leading them. When they bedded, the cows and young lay between the bulls and the wind. Hunters wise in the ways of elk, worked around the cows and down from the peaks. Hammerhorn shivered, with a fear he had not known since babyhood days, the first time a sunning bull suddenly leaped into the air and, far

*"The wolf pack,
tearing through the drifts,
stopped short."*



Creek, below the thicket where he was born, he stood still in the spring haze, disturbed by aimless memories. Finally he crossed the rambling little stream and came to a trail that brought sudden, pleasant waves of emotion.

It seemed to Hammerhorn he could feel the hand of man on his shoulders, hear a kindly voice in his ears. With a surge of homesickness, he sped down the trail.

The cabin still stood in the bluff above the Pass. But the clearing was weed-grown, and no remembered sounds came to Hammerhorn's ears.

He browsed about the yard, nibbling peavine leaves; then, as if he had reverted to the habits of babyhood, he wandered up and rubbed against the sagging door. The association of places with events was stronger now; and he raised his head in wonder when the door did not open. He turned, his heavy ears pointing, as if to catch a sharp forgotten whistle in the hills.

More keenly than a dog who has lost a master, Hammerhorn was full of pain for the man who, to him, would never be like other men. To him, Joder was a voice, a smell, a whistle—a lost part of those dim and distant days he could no longer consciously remember.

For a week he grazed near the cabin, touching the old foot-driven whetstone where he had watched Joder sit, nosing about the sagging shed, chewing a pair of overalls the ranger had long ago discarded.

Then forlornly he wandered back up to the hills. The loneliness of babyhood followed.

FOR Joder, the years had wrought their changes. For one thing, he had an office in Sun Dance, next to that of the town policeman. He had a uniform, too—drab olive, with a peaked cap like an army officer's and the brass badge of the province on its peak. Joder wore it only when Forestry insisted he had to—which, with the old rangers, was not too often.

Periodically he donned his uniform and gave lectures on wildlife to the school kids—"our game conservationists of tomorrow, Joder!" the superintendent told him, grateful Joder consented with nothing more than dour skepticism on his unhand-some face. The lectures seldom lasted long. The inevitable question period that followed convinced Joder the educational system taught kids nothing any more.

Each November, he helped Pop Grady at the check-in station, west of the bridge on the new blacktop highway. There were a lot of hunters passing through the town of Sun Dance now.

"Where's the good elk-hunting?" they'd invariably ask; and he'd point north of the hardtop.

"Try Raven Flats. Easy to pack a trophy out of there."

He never said it without remembering where he had left Hammerhorn—south and west of the highway, deep in the Sun Dance Hills.

Some came, wearing only a red cap. Joder gave them their choice of buying a red jacket over in town, or turning back home. Some ignored his warning to watch themselves in the high country;

they got hopelessly lost, and it was his job to find them.

"What do you get out of this life?" Pop Grady asked him once.

"Trouble," Joder said. His answers had grown shorter with the years.

He would not admit the dread that filled him each time another season rolled around—nor the pain that came when he recognized a great elk going away from the hills forever.

He blew his top the dripping black November day a hunter, wearing glasses, pulled up proudly at the check-in trailer. Joder stared in unbelief at a long-eared and very dead mule lashed to the hunter's truck.

"What's that?"

"Antler-less bull moose." There was no doubt the hunter believed it. "Biological rarity, I believe, sir."

Pop Grady thought it was rarity enough to be a riot; but to Joder, who had to settle it with the mule's owner, it was just another of the calamities that came in the wake of civilization.

The streets of Sun Dance were strange to him. He preferred the lonely life of the hills: making game counts, approving the beaver quotas to be taken on a trapline, laying poison sets for the wolves and—always—scanning the timberline for Crazyfoot.

Off and on, during those years, he had glimpsed Hammerhorn growing into greatness. There was something about the bull that set him apart—to

Illustrated by CLARENCE TILLENUS

Joder, anyway. For one thing, he did not hurry away with the others when the wind carried Joder's scent across the hills. Sometimes he turned, testing the breeze, as if certain he should hear the whistle that used to call him from afar.

But Joder did not whistle.

"Stay clear of men, fellow. You get familiar with me again, and some day you'll ride out of here draped on the radiator of a car."

But the yearning to know if the bull still remembered was hard to shake out of his system.

There were nights he camped in the hills, the better to spot Crazyfoot at his killings; and on one dark and windy dawn, he stood on a wooded ridge, looking down on the sap-scented hollow below.

Suddenly a bull elk stepped up on the opposite rim, regal and magnificent against the September sunrise. Joder saw the long royal-points, the powerful 7-pronged branches leveling back against the dark cape, as the bull lifted his head to bugle.

"Wat-att-ta-ta! Wat-att-ta-too! Waugh—wah!"

"Hammerhorn!" Joder whispered.

Would it hurt, just once, to whistle the piercing "come-boy!" call of babyhood? Joder put his fingers to his mouth. Then he saw them filing into the windless hollow below, seven soft-faced cows in all—Hammerhorn's harem!

Those who knew Joder well would have wondered why he smiled.

IT was hard to erase memories of a trusting, wire-haired little "hammer head," baby eyes ringed with sunken sooty circles, feeding between his knees. Sometimes he detoured to the old cabin—just to stand awhile in the stillness, before going back to Sun Dance.

After one such trip, he found Ken Currie in his office.

Joder grunted. "Been away a spell."

The rancher's son was taller than the ranger now, given to wavy black hair and a dark-haired high-school girl hanging onto his arm. Joder had seen them often on the streets of Sun Dance; and he frowned his disapproval of it all.

It was the kid who brought up the subject of Crazyfoot. "You think anyone will ever get him, Mr. Joder?"

Joder, who had seen the remains of a dozen clubbed-down elk that summer, grunted sourly.

"Know what I think? Everyone I've heard talking about Crazyfoot since I was a kid always says the same thing—they always find signs of him close to Pawn's Peak. Maybe he's got his den there, Joder—"

"Tell me something I don't know," Joder said. "Where the den is, for example."

"Just trying to be helpful." Ken Currie gave a half-embarrassed grin and changed the subject. "Saw your elk the other day—I think. He's got a sort of prance when he trots—the way he used to follow you."

Joder eyed him.

"You spend a lot of time in those hills." He said it like an accusation.

"Sometimes they seem kind of important—when you think maybe you won't be seeing them so much any more." Ken Currie made a gesture of indecision. "High school's over. Dad wants me to go to college."

"So?" Joder said, wondering how that concerned him.

"Just thought I'd drop in before I left. I wanted to—well, thank you for giving us an appreciation of our elk—to wish you luck—and to say so-long."

It was a full minute before Joder spoke.

"So long," he said.

But somehow, suddenly, one kid's words made up for a lot of things over all the years.

SMALL acts sometimes have significant consequences. Three years after Ken Currie left Sun Dance, someone flipped a half-smoked cigarette into the dry buckbrush of the highway, running between pine-dry hills. In the deep windy darkness of the autumn night, Hammerhorn stood transfixed above the timberline and stared at the fire, spreading in explosions of greasy-yellow flame over the pine-blackened bottoms.

He was a boss-bull now; a leader; a guardian of the great herds. Days before, when the mating bugles blared, he had bawled his way up the slopes, goring rivals into hasty flight, till at last he faced the greatest elk of all.

The Old One's rump had grown steel-gray with age; he had lost his right eye in a grucelling

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battle the fall before; but still he bugled his pride to the peaks.

He turned his baleful eye on the magnificent Hammerhorn elambling up to meet him; and something in the great weight of the younger bull's shoulders must have told him his days as overlord were ended.

Hammerhorn grunted, but the desire to attack was dying in him. The association of places and events stirred memories. Here, a man had left him as a lonely yearling. Behind that great, kind king he had sheltered often over the years.

Vaugh—wowk!

With a harsh cough, he turned back from the Old One's bugling ground;

and when another great elk came pawing up the slopes—the bull that had blinded the Old One the fall before—it was Hammerhorn who met him savagely and sent him lumbering back to the bottoms.

THAT winter, for the first time, he learned what forest-fire could mean. With the first snow, sportsmen poured into Sun Dance. The underbrush—cover for the elk, as well as their warning radar—was gone; and for 6 weeks, Hammerhorn was hunted as he had never been hunted before. Even the crack of a twig sent him plunging down the nearest draw, ruck low, till he stood in exhaustion in some

far jackpine aisle. When silence settled again on the snow-swathed peaks, the trophy bulls were fewer.

The elk ranged far that winter, pawing over burnt-out meadows, gnawing even the bark off balsam, finding the singed brush tough and unpleasant to their taste. Their teeth left great chisel marks on every aspen. Joder, studying the gnawed tree-trunks, opined the elk needed the bitter bark as some sort of tonic against the ravages of malnutrition.

It was the Old One—again—who bugled the starving herds down, at last, to the ranchers' hay flats. But this time no guns opened up in the night. This time, for miles along the meadow flats, succulent greenfeed bundles lay strewn across the snow. Farm kids came out and watched the famished herds feeding.

It was Wes Currie who organized the relief.

"It's like you said, Joder." It was hard for the rancher to admit his error. "They did more for us than lumber or even ranching. They got us a few good roads, anyway. They've brought folding money into Sun Dance. Besides," Wes Currie said, "better to feed some to the brutes than to have 'em tramp everything under!"

JODER, using a jeep to break out trails to what few untouched meadows he could find, conceded there'd been a change—how permanent he wasn't sure.

He still wasn't a man to have much truck with anybody, least of all the likes of Wes Currie, and it went hard to give voice to the one question lying inside him.

"You hear much from that boy?"

"I hear from him, that's about all." Currie didn't look happy. "Keeps asking about these hills—and Crazyfoot—and you—and that elk you raised." Wes Currie shook his head. "Can't understand young fellows these days."

Don't expect you can, Joder thought; but he didn't say it. He wondered briefly what his own life would have been like if there'd been some boy to write to him . . . someone who cared.

He stood for another minute, in silence; then walked back to the insulated coldness of the jeep.

"C'mon, girl," Joder said, as he used to talk to the dun. "We got work to do . . ."

(to be concluded)



"Swell, Dad! Now tell me about the birds!"



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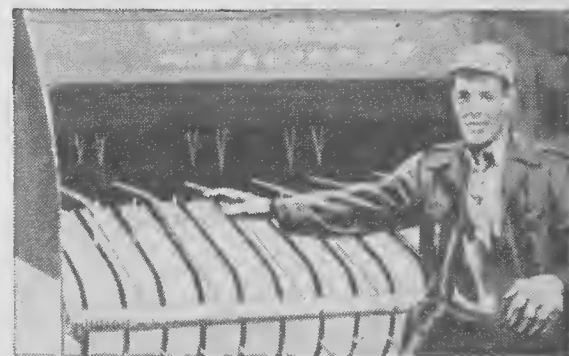
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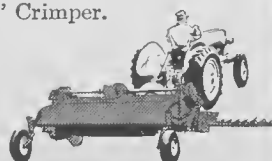
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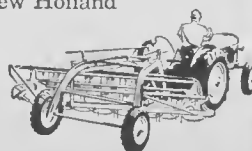
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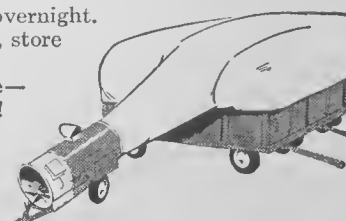
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Continued from page 21 PARTNERS IN PRODUCTION

leaf on a nearby shrub or tree and cuts out small oblong sections from it. Next, she rolls these into a little tube or cell. At one end of this cell she places the nectar-pollen mass which will serve to feed the young larva, and then lays a long, banana-shaped egg beside it. The cell ends are neatly capped with circular sections cut from the same leaf, and another alfalfa pollinator is on the way to being born.

Of the 15-odd species of leafcutter found on the western plains, only 2

are consistently good as alfalfa pollinators. Some of the others do a pretty good job at times, but aren't reliable enough for a man to base his business on. And this poses another hazard to the seed grower. The really valuable species of bees don't emerge to build and provision their nests until late June or early July, and even then, they fly only when the temperature rises above 64 degree Fahrenheit. In actual practice, only about one-third of the busy insects can be used as pollinators because some emerge too early, and others too late.

Of course, even nature's best laid plans "gang aft agley" at times. Alfalfa will often start to bloom before the leafcutters have crawled out of their tunnels, or the bumblebee queens have built up their colonies. In that case, with a life span of only 5 days, many alfalfa flowers will have died before the bees get a chance to work their field. If his alfalfa seems to be maturing too fast, the grower can slow the blooming down by clipping the plants when they are small. But he has to keep in mind that it takes about 40 days for a fertilized ovary to produce a mature seed. Postponing the flowering stage of his crop won't help things much if a late bee flight is followed by an early frost.

GROWER efforts to increase the wild bee population by creating an artificial habitat haven't been too successful. Boring holes in logs which have been placed near the fields often attracts varieties that have no value as pollinators, or else it concentrates the bees so their eggs are more accessible to various natural enemies. But the operator can help by making things more favorable in the natural habitat. Bees tend to work the edges of a field, so it pays to plant the alfalfa crop in long, narrow fields rather than in square ones. Ridding fields, ditches and roadsides of competing flowers is a good move too, and if the crop has been planted on newly cleared land, brush piles and other debris should be left along the field's edges.

Another way the grower can aid is to wage war on insect enemies which reduce leafcutter populations. One parasite, the velvet ant, cuts through the bee's cells and lays its own egg there, which then develops and eats the bee larva. The blister beetle lays eggs on thistle flowers, and these hatch into larvae with big, clamp-like jaws. When a bee stops by, the larva fastens on to it and hitches a free ride to the bee's nest. Here it kills the bee larva.

Under favorable conditions, one lady leafcutter can cross-pollinate 84,000 flowers during her normal flight period of 23 days. Production-wise, this amounts to some 418,500 individual seeds, or 2 pounds of alfalfa seed by weight. A grower with one bee working per square yard of field for a period of 15 days can expect to harvest about 1,200 pounds of seed per acre. For the leafcutter is a dawn-to-dusk worker who revels in a 17-hour day, and would go longer than that if daylight would oblige. It literally works itself to death. V



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April

**"Make me over, mother April
When the sap begins to stir"**

—Bliss Carman's Spring Song

SPRING fever? Action's a better antidote than wishing and reaps better results from this strangely seasonal surge of energy. Tangible good can come from spring's sensation. The outlet you choose may take many forms; changing seasons make real demands.

The outdoor growing season is just beginning, but indoors the winter months just past have brought a period of rapid growth. High fashion edicts from foreign capitals are not the issue in our picture. The "new look" in this case is a longer skirt length — longer on the dress and barely holding its own on the wearer. While this sort of making over is not likely what the poet had in mind, it is an April activity. Shrugging off the confinement of winter wear, April's girl is impatient to measure her increased stature against the new season.

"Sun and showers" is a definition for April. True for our fourth month, it might also be applied to a little girl and to life itself.

by GWEN LESLIE



[Eva Luoma photo]

Journey to Light

by ALICE BARDSLEY

WENDY loved this new and exciting experience of getting up and dressing while it was yet night. There was not even the tiniest pink in the sky where the sun usually flung out advance banners.

Aunt Susie Buchanan, as she combed Wendy's hair, explained the unusual situation.

"Your mother is ill and must not be disturbed, so you are having breakfast at Uncle Pete's house, and will visit there awhile."

"Will you feed Felix and Rompy, or should I take them with me? Mother sort of dislikes how they track in dirt. Do you know where the little damp cloth is—the one you wipe dirty paws with?" asked Wendy anxiously.

"They can stay in the barn. I am afraid by the look of things right now the animals will have to wipe their own paws. I am very pleased with you, dear, for being such a good girl and not fussing about getting up so early."

"I love getting up early, and I love going to Uncle Pete's house, so it really isn't a test. Is Mother very sick—sicker than she was last time she fainted?"

"She'll be fine if we keep quiet," promised Aunt Susie.

"Then I won't mind not saying good-by to her. Oh, please be quiet." Wendy gave her pocket an impatient pull.

"What did you say, dear?" asked Aunt Susie, pausing in the act of putting pajamas in a bag.

"It's only the Sneech. He simply hates before daylight."

Aunt Susie shook her head and muttered something that sounded like "uncanny." Wendy Buchanan, 6 years going on 7, was always coming up with fanciful new words.

"Come along," said Aunt Susie bending to kiss the top of her head. "We'll go out the back door on tip-toe. Uncle Pete is waiting with the car."

There were lively times at Uncle Pete's house. He had children older, and younger, than Wendy. With her expansive capacity for loving, she embraced them all. The only secret she kept from Uncle Pete's brood was the existence of the Sneech, the imaginary friend being too delicate a creature for their antics. Uncle Pete had a little woodlot to play in, a pool with ducks, and swings in the yard. In the evening the older children took her out for a row in the boat. They were very nice to her and no one pulled her pony-tail.

One day as she played by the gate Daddy came by to speak with Uncle Pete.

"Can I come home with you?" asked Wendy, hopping from one foot to the other.

"You can come home tomorrow," promised her father. He bent and kissed her. "Be my good, big little girl," he said, and cleared his throat huskily.

"You forgot your cough drops again," said Wendy, shaking her head. "Are you feeding Felix and Rompy? Is Mother all better?" But Daddy had driven off in a hurry.

It was then Aunt Nonnie told her. "Your mother went away to Heaven, dear. There

were beautiful flowers all around her, and her friends sang lovely hymns, and they put her body—the part that was sick—in the cemetery, and the other part that loved and thought went to be with God."

Wendy put her hand into her pocket and held onto the Sneech.

"You mean I wasn't her friend?" she asked, her eyes darkening. "I can't sing worth a cent, but I would like to see the lovely flowers. Will Mother be coming back?"

"Well . . . no," said Aunt Nonnie, floundering.

"When can I go home?" asked Wendy. She could feel the Sneech curling itself about her fingers.

"Tomorrow. Wendy, you must take care of your daddy. You know—don't mention your mother too often. It will just make him cry." Aunt Nonnie had read some place that it was good for a grieving child to be given responsibility.

UNCLE PETE BUCHANAN drove Wendy home the next day. The house at home had a strange smell, like a garden, and it was quiet. Wendy found rose petals on the floor behind the door where they had been overlooked in the sweeping. Mother never overlooked anything when she swept. It was when she put the rose petals in her pocket that Wendy missed the Sneech. The comforting little creature of her childish imagination had deserted her in her hour of need.

She slipped out to the barn and found Felix and Rompy locked in the hayloft. Their drink and feed dishes were both empty. She carried

Illustrated by MANLEY GELLER

The wind swept her bouquet out of sight.



the dishes back to the house and found bones, fish, milk and some water. She smiled brightly at Daddy who was sitting very quiet on a couch by the kitchen window.

"How is your throat today?" she asked. He looked at her in silence for a while.

"It's better," he said. "You're spilling the water."

"I'll come back and wipe it up when I feed the poor cat and dog," she said reproachfully. "Is Aunt Susie staying?"

"Do you want her to?" asked Daddy.

"I suppose," said Wendy. Then she turned, and went out quickly.

Aunt Susie came out of the pantry wiping her eyes. "It is almost unbelievable," she said. "She doesn't miss her mother at all. She's more concerned about the animals."

While Rompy drank his water greedily, and Felix lapped up his milk, Wendy sat in the hay, rocking slightly, her hand in her empty pocket. She was looking out through a split board at a bed of buttercups that bloomed at the edge of the compost heap. Last year she had picked them for her mother and had been rewarded with hugs and kisses.

"We must keep Daddy happy," she said, moving close to Rompy and putting her face against his soft fur. Rompy kissed her with a tongue cool from the refreshing drink. "I do think it's a shame she died so young," she went on, "and the flowers must have been pretty."

She took the petals out of her pocket and looked at them again. "I hear Heaven is a pretty place, too, but I hate funerals when children are not allowed. If I could ask Daddy about it, but we mustn't make him feel bad. It makes his throat funny. I'd like to see the grave where the pretty flowers were left, and down below is—is—"

Wendy flung herself on the sweet-smelling hay and wept. Felix shot his tail in the air and rubbed against her—back and forth—bending his head sideways to give impetus to his loving. He purred loudly, but the weeping went on. Rompy moved uneasily and licked Wendy's salty cheek.

SUDDENLY she had one of her inspirations. She stopped crying and wiped her face with her skirt. She came down the long hayloft ladder as agile as a monkey and opening a little hatch in the side released the animals. A smart wind had whipped itself into a gale and she had trouble with the barn door. When she finally opened it, cat and dog dashed past her to freedom.

She picked the buttercups, taking pains to not bruise the stalks, and pulled the yellow ribbon off her ponytail to tie them into a straggly bouquet. Her hair, released, blew about her face so she held it back with a bent arm as she hid the flowers under an upturned wheelbarrow.

Lunch was a very quiet affair, and Wendy could scarcely eat for looking at a row of muddy paw tracks on the tile floor. No one seemed to notice. I guess it doesn't matter anyway, she thought. A person worried about floors and things and suddenly they were gone and other folks never noticed tracks, or hair all askew with the ribbon gone.

After lunch Wendy ran upstairs and put the rose petals in her little box with the locket Mother had given her. The house shook with a gust of wind as she came downstairs. Aunt Susie was giving Rompy a bone on the floor. If Mother could see that! Then fearing that she could, Wendy picked up the bone and gave it to Rompy on his plate in the porch. Aunt Susie gave her a chocolate bar and told her to play quietly as Daddy was tired and wanted to have a nap.

WENDY pulled on her jacket, and stout boots reserved for hikes. She picked up the buttercups, and edged around the yard so that she could not be seen from the house, then ran down a little lane that led to the main highway. From there she set her face resolutely toward where she thought the cemetery might be.

It was blowing very hard and the wind whipped her skirt and hair about, and threatened to destroy her bouquet. She buttoned it under her jacket, taking care to not crush the yellow cups. Once when she heard a car coming she scrambled into the brush by the roadside to hide. Growl-ups were so unreasonable, they would probably make her turn back. She bent her head far back to look at the swaying tree tops. It was so dark, and blowing harder than Wendy could ever remember. She wished she knew what the Sneeck really looked like, for in that case she might be able to find it. She missed the comfort it always gave her, and wept silently to herself a few moments over the desertion. It certainly wasn't like the Sneeck to do such a thing.

When a truck rumbling along the road sent Wendy into hiding again she hit on another plan. If one took a short cut through the woods it would eliminate the nuisance of traffic. She saw a well-beaten path leading off at right angles to the highway. Wendy loved wooded paths and all the interesting things to be seen in and under trees. Moreover it was more sheltered walking here, and she could take the buttercups out from under her jacket. The tree tops were swaying and creaking but it was cool and green and mossy walking down below. She thought about funerals, and the Sneeck. She tried singing *Jesus Loves Me*, and wondered if it was a funeral hymn. No doubt the friends Aunt Nonnie spoke of were good singers.

The path seemed to have narrowed down a great deal, and Wendy found it necessary to lift the nearer tree branches aside to save her flowers. There were not as many squirrels chatter as usual either, and the sky seen through the tree tops was a funny purple. It was almost too dark now and the path had dissolved into moss and straggly underbrush. Wendy frowned and looked around for direction but the trees hemmed her in. She wished Rompy was with her. She would know the grave when she found it since there were so many pretty flowers on it. She looked at her flowers and found that the branches had reached for them in passing so they had to be retied.

Where had the Sneeck gotten to anyway? Wendy's throat tightened up and felt raspy. It hurt to swallow and her eyes filled with tears. She knew now how miserable Daddy must have felt when his throat sounded as hers

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"It's a fact! The hollyhock and the cotton plant are botanical cousins! Says so right here in 'The Story of Cotton'! Funny thing, too, because just about everyone with a garden in Canada grows hollyhocks, while cotton grows in hot climates.

"Still, I have relatives all over the world, but being a WABASSO rabbit, my particular branch of the family thrives in a snowy climate.

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PUMPKIN PIE ALASKA

Here's glamorous "baked Alaska" prepared in an exciting new way. And it's easy as pie to create this stunning dessert. Bake a pie shell, fill it with this creamy frozen pumpkin filling, swirl meringue atop it, and give it a quick touch of the broiler to brown. Try this delightful new recipe soon, and remember one thing: only Robin Hood Flour will give you the sure-fire, best-tasting results you want.

PASTRY:

1 cup sifted Robin Hood
All-Purpose Flour

½ teaspoon salt

⅓ cup lard or shortening

2 to 3 tablespoons cold water

Sift flour and salt together. Using two knives, cut half the lard into flour until fine and mealy. Cut in the remainder until the size of small peas. Sprinkle in water one teaspoonful at a time, tossing mixture up from bottom of bowl with a fork. Press crumbly mixture into a ball and flatten slightly. Chill 10 minutes. Roll out on lightly floured work surface. Loosen with metal spatula and fit loosely into 9" pie plate. Turn under and flute edge. Prick well. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until brown in very hot oven, 450°F. Cool.

FILLING:

¼ lb. marshmallows (16)
2 cups canned pumpkin
⅓ cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1½ teaspoons ginger
1½ teaspoons cinnamon

2 tablespoons boiling water

4 tablespoons orange juice

4 egg yolks, beaten

1½ cups heavy cream, whipped

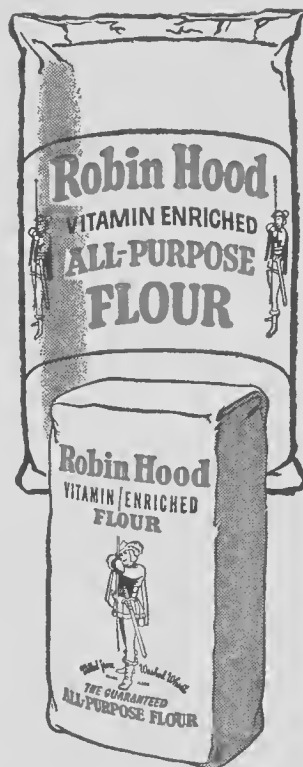
MERINGUE:

4 egg whites

4 tablespoons sugar

Melt marshmallows in top of double boiler. While melting, add pumpkin, sugar and salt. Mix ginger and cinnamon with boiling water, add to melting mixture, then add orange juice. When marshmallows are completely melted, remove from heat, add to egg yolks and beat until smooth. Pour into freezing tray and chill. When pumpkin mixture is cold and slightly stiffened, fold it into cream. Return to refrigerator and freeze.

Just before serving, spread frozen mixture in pastry shell and cover with thick meringue. Place pie under hot broiler to brown. Serve at once. Serves 6 to 8.



Robin Hood Flour comes in fine quality cotton bags — 100 lb., 50 lb., and 25 lb. sizes. Paper label soaks off — no ink to wash out. Also in handy 25 lb., 10 lb., 7 lb., 5 lb. and 2 lb. packages.

felt. She turned about and started to walk in another direction. The path must be around some place.

Wendy remembered the chocolate bar, but it was a brief consolation. She remembered Daddy saying that bars were getting smaller and smaller. This one had about six polite bites in it, but Wendy ate it in three hungry bites.

BACK at home John Buchanan, having napped longer than he planned, was searching the barn and outbuildings frantically for Wendy. He scanned the ominous looking sky. The big blow was coming directly across this part of the country, the weatherman had said.

Wendy was sitting on a log with her back against a large tree and half-doing when she heard the strange, rushing, tearing sound. It sounded like many jets flying away off and coming nearer. She tried to watch for them through the tree tops that whipped back and forth like Felix's tail when he was real angry. She thought perhaps the trees were angry with her for leaving home without telling Aunt Susie, and she grew frightened. The rushing sound was louder, almost deafening now, and a few great drops of rain struck here and there. Everything was getting so terribly mixed up.

When the deluge came it flattened Wendy against the tree, then violent whirling wind tore the bouquet out of her hands and she watched it go upwards beyond the trees and out of her sight.

There was a dreadful rending splitting sound and the tree she was leaning against shivered and splintered. It broke with a shattering sound and keeled over crushing the lesser trees before it as it fell. The earth beneath Wendy rose in a semi-circle of moss and rending roots. Her cry of terror was cut short by a blow on the head from a falling branch.

Wendy could not quite understand all that was happening. She knew that Rompy was sniffing her face and that she was quite wet and very sleepy. She heard her father's voice and other voices, and her head hurt in a dull way.

She turned it by way of experiment, and saw the light. It was yellow with a beautiful halo around it. She had seen a light like that in Gentle Jesus' hand in the picture in her Bible story book. He had been knocking at a door in the picture. She remembered the buttercups and looking for a grave, and all the time Mother wasn't really in a grave at all but in Heaven. Leave it to God, she thought, to know where the buttercups should really go. What she had called her own Sneech must be God and He had come back to her here in the woods.

John Buchanan passed his lantern to a neighbor and bent to pick Wendy up. Except for being wet, and having a bruised forehead, she had been safe in the shelter of a large windfall.

"I see you have God's lantern," she said, relaxing against Daddy's broad chest. "He must have left it when He came for Mother's buttercups. We'll talk more about it when I wake up."

"Yes, darling," promised Daddy. "We'll talk more about a number of things."

ALL-PURPOSE **Robin Hood Flour**



The bird bath drew hundreds of visitors to the enchanted garden during the summer months.

Enchanted Garden

by MARGARET FURNESS MacLEOD



Stone steps gave access to woods beyond the rockery.

SOMEONE said "to plant a seed is to plant your heart." I did just that.

Our Montreal home was situated on a mountainside and, because it literally clung to the rocky bank on which it was built, I named it "The Eagle's Nest." A heavily wooded area covered with white birch, maple and some oak lay behind it.

At the side, leading up to the back door, were three pie-shaped beds, like giant steps, from the street to the wood. These were planted with bleeding-heart, a crimson pcony from my Prince Edward Island home, many varieties of iris, a border of English daisies and annuals for summer blooming. Large flat stones, not needed elsewhere, became steps up the incline.

Each autumn, year after year, I planted bulbs in quantity, but the squirrels liked them so much that by spring I would have only a dozen survivors. These I admired from my kitchen door.

Then I decided I must have some hepaticas. These are wild flowers which, in the Province of Quebec, come up the same time as bloodroot and trilliums. The hepatica is quite unusual. It has rusty, copper-colored leaves, with clusters of tiny pink bloom coming from the center. After the blossoms die, the leaves become a dense green and remain so all summer long. These grew and flourished in my garden and, as soon as the snow melted, this precious wildflower, now domesticated, smiled back at me.

An adjoining vacant lot made my "Devil's Garden." Stone blasted out of the rocky bank to clear the way for our house foundation had slithered down to provide a natural rockery.

Near my neighbor's backdoor was a clump of trees with clusters of white flowers that later became red berries. I cut out the dead wood and cleared the stones away from their roots. Lily-

of-the-valley, planted around the roots, grew and spread quickly.

There were trees great and small. Sumac, thistles and grapevine poked their way through the stones and I began to cut some of them down. I made little walls of stone around the stumps, filling the hollows with rich, virgin soil from the woods, and in these I planted the variety of seeds that later brought forth a miracle of color.

Having decided one hot summer day that a syringa bush would add interest to my garden, I drove into the country and came home with a 7-foot one already in bud, with roots generously covered with earth and protected by a wet potato sack. Arriving home, I put it into the water-soaked hole that had been prepared earlier. After covering it over, I drove a stake in beside it and to this I lashed an umbrella. Although this prompted my neighbors to express some doubt as to my sanity, it did keep the sun away from the syringa, which has flourished and bloomed every spring since.

On either side of the garden there were places where the soil was always moist. One of these, near the house, was a bank with a 20-foot drop. This became a bed of blue forget-me-not, with pink campion for contrast. Neither made much of a show the first year but they did drop their seed down over the hill to start clumps among the stones. By the second year the effect was like a miniature waterfall for when the forget-me-nots were gone, the campion took over, and the cascade changed from blue to pink.

On the other damp seam a variety of ferns from the Laurentian Mountains made a cool, green note in an otherwise flower-filled garden.

I was fortunate to find a cheerful Frenchman named Sullivan. Sullivan knew flowers and gave a professional

touch to any garden. Whenever a problem arose, he could be depended upon to provide the solution.

For instance, my garden, although it was a riot of color by day, was a black hole at night. Sullivan suggested that the two-tier beds, which extended almost the width of the garden, be planted with the Saint Joseph flower. I had never heard of it and neither had anyone else whom I asked.

A few days later, Sullivan arrived from the market with two large flats of seedlings.

"What are they?" I asked.

"The Saint Joseph flower," he replied.

For me, they were white petunias. But they proved to be all he had promised for by day they were a joy to the eye; by night they turned a sombre hillside into a lighthouse.

IN the wooded slope behind the house, birds, rabbits and squirrels made their homes and as my garden grew, new faces, voices and colors appeared.

A stone bird bath, centered in the lawn at the foot of the rockery, attracted many kinds of birds. After filling the bowl with water for the first time I sat on the terrace waiting to see what might happen. It was not long until the robins arrived and soon the bath was full of birds, all trying to bathe at once, while still others waited on the ground for their turn. The "old swimming hole" was no more popular than that concrete bath. For small birds reluctant to venture into its deepest part I placed stones at one side of the basin so they might stand and wash without fear of drowning.

As the summer advanced, squirrels found the bird bath a good drinking place and chipmunks rushed about inspecting the pedestal.

I soon discovered that woodland folk like privacy while they bathe.

This prompted me to move the bath nearer to a clump of dogwood to give them an opportunity to hide, or to sun themselves after their dip.

The grapevine must have spread the news of this acquisition to my garden because suddenly the trees were alive with goldfinches. These visitors did not like the bath as such but once I started to spray with water the shrubs in which they played hide-and-seek, they soon became daily visitors.

One day a great cock pheasant drank from the bath, his glorious plumage hanging almost to the ground. He was my first visitor from the nearby bird sanctuary although later there were to be many more.

No garden such as ours would be complete without humming birds. I lured them by filling small bottles with a syrup of sugar and water, attached to upright sticks placed here and there in the beds. I did so with the utmost success for one day, as I was weeding, I felt a sharp stab. Turning to discover the cause, I realized a hummingbird had been trying to extract nectar from the blue delphiniums on my floral dress!

A FRIEND induced me to buy birdhouses suitable for the various species to be found here and when they were in place, my hill looked like a motel. Brides, with their grooms, came flying through the woods to investigate this new housing development.

Thinking they might find it difficult to locate the materials needed to build their nests, I unraveled a sweater and cut the yarn into strands. These were hung on the tree branches, together with bits of absorbent cotton, and feathers extracted from a pillow. These building materials were most popular with the robins. One venturesome pair even discovered a broken



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pane in the outside window of my guest room and took up residence on the sill. I watched them build their nest, saw their blue eggs and, finally, open-mouthed fledglings waiting for busy parents to bring worms for their dinner. Woodpeckers needed no help, and year round they could be heard rapping and tapping on the trees behind the house.

For the benefit of the feathered creatures who remain through the winter, I would fill suet-holders and attach them to the trees nearest to the kitchen door. They were so popular they needed replenishing each day.

One Christmas Day, shortly before my family was due to arrive, I lit the fire in the stone fireplace with its wide chimney. Immediately the kindling caught I heard an eerie squeal, only to have an owl tumble down into the firebasket. Rescuing him quickly, I put him in a large preserving kettle with the lid so arranged that he could breathe. After my guests had seen

him I let him go free, a sadder and, I trust, a wiser owl.

It was our family tradition to give the birds a Christmas treat and in the snow lying deep in the terrace, I would hollow out a trough, filling it with crumbs and oatmeal. One year, even before the sparrows had time to discover it, a whirring of wings heralded the arrival of 14 pheasants, no doubt visitors from the nearby bird sanctuary. They enjoyed a Christmas feast and when they had dined, they flew away, never to repeat their visit.

All these birds and flowers were to my garden as the actors are to a play. I had cleared the ground and sown the seed to provide their stage. Flowers and plants flourished. But birds and animals brought it to life.

If you are inspired to make a garden, you are certain to find yourself, as I did, a spectator waiting for the curtain to rise on nature's play and the enchantment of your outdoor theater to begin. v

How Do You Rate?

Twenty Questions on Home Safety

HEADLINE accidents involving tractors and other farm machinery are not uncommon. Fortunately, more and more attention is being directed toward reducing safety hazards on the farm and in the farm home. Thirteen thousand farm people died accidentally in the United States in 1955 —3,300, or one-quarter, of them in home mishaps.

Allow yourself five points for every "yes" answer.

A score of 90 or better—you might even live that long.

70 to 90—you're safety conscious, but watch that 30 per cent.

40 to 60—you're reading this from a hospital bed, or you were born lucky.

Under 40—you're living on borrowed time.

	YES	NO
1. Are stairways well lighted and free of boxes, jars, mops and brooms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do your stairs have at least one strong handrail?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are your steps, porches and stairways in good repair?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you keep sharp knives separate from other knives and tableware?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Are pot handles turned back from the front of the stove?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Do you mop up spilled water or grease at once?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Do you use a safe step ladder rather than makeshifts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Has your washing machine an easily operated hand release?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Do you avoid placing hot water or hot fat containers where they can be readily overturned?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Do you provide special containers for broken glass or china?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Do you take care not to leave small children in the bath tub?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Are matches kept out of youngsters' reach?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Have you an enclosed play area for children under 18 months?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Do you disconnect electrical appliances when not in use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Are small rugs near the head of stairs or on landings fastened securely?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Do you replace electric cords when they're frayed or worn?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Are medicine bottles labeled properly and kept out of children's reach?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. When using inflammable materials, do you do all dry cleaning outdoors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Is there a definite place for wheeled toys such as bicycles, wagons and skates?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. When canning food, do you follow directions carefully, and have the pressure gauge on your cooker checked every year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(C.V.F. v

The Gift and The Giver

by MARION ULLMARK

WHEN I hear people remark that if they can't give something expensive and really good, they would rather give nothing at all, I think of John Benson.

At one time in his life John Benson was a very wealthy man. He had no family of his own, and delighted in showering presents on his friends' children. He was never too busy to give his advice or help — a gentle, kindly person everyone loved.

Then, in those troubled years when larger and stronger firms than his became insolvent, the Benson Company failed. Dad Benson used his personal fortune to pay the firm's creditors and then retreated to a small apple ranch at the edge of town. This was all that was left of his once extensive real estate holdings, and he cheerfully prepared to raise the "best apples in the province."

We young people still enjoyed visiting him and found he continued to take the same warm interest in our activities. In a way this posed a problem for us. Most of us were getting engaged and married, and we didn't want Dad Benson fussed or bothered trying to buy gifts he couldn't afford. He had given us enough through all the years from our first baby days, and we didn't want him to do anything more for us, as it would mean that he'd have to deny himself.

I WAS the first of the girls to get married and from the time I sent his wedding invitation I worried about the whole thing. Then, a few days before the wedding, a square envelope arrived. It was in Dad Benson's familiar handwriting and I tore it open quickly. The note said this: "Dear Marnie, I am sending you best wishes for your happiness. My fondest hopes and sincere prayers go with you and Joe in your life together. When you are back from your honeymoon and settled in your own home, will you let me come and inspect your yard with the view of planting one of my young apple trees? With your approval, I will select a suitable spot and will plant the tree myself. I am hoping that the apples from it will be enjoyed by you and your children."

That was the way Dad Benson solved his gift problem. If his young friends happened to be moving into a rented house, he delivered a box of his choicest fruit, with a small card promising a tree when they were ready for it. All over our small town apple trees burst into clouds of lovely bloom each spring, and bear their red-checked fruit each fall because of the loving-kindness of Dad Benson.

Dad Benson never had any children of his own, but the young folks whom he called his children will never forget him. And children who never knew him eat Dad Benson's apples and listen to the story of how the apple tree was planted in their yard. He proved to a whole generation of us that a gift need not be expensive as the world counts expense. Yet he gave the most costly gifts of all—his time, his thought and his care. ✓



Look what you and your Magic can create!

It's a joy to make cloud-light and heavenly baking powder biscuits with Magic. And look: this basic recipe offers you four delicious variations! Why not bake a batch for dinner?

MAGIC BAKING POWDER BISCUITS (basic recipe)

- 3 cups once-sifted pastry flour
(or 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups once-sifted all-purpose flour)
- 6 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chilled shortening
- 1 cup milk

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt into mixing bowl; cut in shortening finely. Make a well in dry mixture; add milk and mix lightly with a fork, using just enough milk to make a soft but not sticky dough. Turn out dough onto lightly-floured board or canvas and knead lightly for 10 seconds. Roll out to $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thickness and cut with a floured 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cookie cutter. Arrange, slightly apart, on greased cookie sheet. Bake in a hot oven, 450°, about 12 minutes. Yield — 12 to 14 biscuits.

4 Easy Variations

CHEESE BISCUITS: Reduce shortening to $\frac{1}{4}$ cup and before adding milk, mix in 1 cup shredded process cheese. Brush unbaked biscuit-tops with milk and sprinkle with sesame seeds when available. *Delightful with salads, egg dishes or jam.*

TOMATO BISCUITS: Replace salt with onion salt and milk with tomato juice. *Wonderful accompaniment for salads, cold cuts, fish and eggs.*

SPICED RAISIN BISCUITS: Sift $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon ground cinnamon, $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon ground cloves and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup fine granulated sugar with the flour; before adding milk, mix in $\frac{3}{4}$ cup raisins. *Lightly-spiced and delightfully sweet — luscious at tea-time.*

CHILI BISCUITS: Sift 1 teaspoon chili powder with the flour; replace $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup thick chili sauce. *These savory biscuits do wonders for bland foods.*

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You can depend on Magic

My Garden Gate

by G. V. SCHILLINGER

ANY young bride can manage a few flowers—so older folks think. So when I bought my first house and garden magazine, a few weeks after my marriage, I was eager and confident.

"This will be a cinch," I thought. "Why, this magazine tells how to do just everything." The articles were quite specific, but they didn't have new brides in mind.

I became interested in flower gardens after I found a harmless looking picture of a little rustic garden gate. It was a simple black and white scene but it sparked my imagination so much that I could easily imagine all the beautiful flowers growing inside the garden gate.

Already that little rustic gate was mine. After all, wasn't I going to make one? And I did, too, after a fashion. Of course, my rustic gate didn't look exactly like the one pictured, but why quibble?

And mine was different! For one thing, I used old stuff that was lying around our place. We lived in a small town and our yard was in a rather bad state when I decided to beautify the grounds. The picture showed a good frame of solid wood the size of the opening in the fence. Then lengths of tree limbs with the bark left on were sawed to make the upright pieces to nail over the frame.

The lengths of tree limbs I found were old, dry and dead, and they split when I tried to nail them to the frame of my gate. Finally I had to take some heavy twine and tie my stakes to the frame. My husband nearly had a conniption fit when he saw it.

"Why didn't you tell me you wanted a garden gate?" he asked me that evening, trying to keep a silly smile from his face. "You know I'm a first-class gate-maker myself!" He gave another slant at my gate and then did a bend-over-double-with-laughter act for me. "From now on," he tried to tell me, "you raise the flowers, I'll make the gates."

Believing that this is the kind of co-operation good marriages are based on, I agreed, anticipating we'd build a very romantic garden in our own back yard.

Being married, making a garden, working in the sun . . . these would be part of building a good life. I even began to dream about the little boys and girls who would someday be swinging on our garden gate. V



Norman
Rockwell

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Nadine Archibald—

Farm Woman of Distinction

by DON BARON

“A WOMAN has an important role to play in the home,” concedes the pleasant-mannered secretary of the 6,000-member Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Mrs. Nadine Archibald, “but she needn’t confine her interest to that alone. Not at a time when farming’s greatest need is for leaders.”

This attractive mother of three children is proof that a woman can plan her time to fill more than the role of a housewife. With the dexterity of a juggler, she has cared for her family and served as full-time secretary-manager of the province’s parent farm organization during the past 10 years. Her work has taken her on trips across the province and across the country, but she is sure now that the responsibility this has thrown on the children has been good for them.

A woman can find it a frightening job, to take on responsibility in farm organizations, she has found from experience. A native Prince Edward Islander herself, (her brother, Howard Roper is a prominent Guernsey breeder there) she lived in Ontario for a time before returning to Truro 10 years ago to tackle the big job with the province’s Federation.

“I had some terrible moments at first,” she recalls, “for I had practically no experience.”

But Mrs. Archibald brought a strong determination and a spirit of enthusiasm to her work. That she won the respect of farm people is amply demonstrated—she has retained her job through a decade of growth for the organization, been named secretary-treasurer of the N.S. Milk and Cream Producers’ Association as well, and still found time to serve as secretary of the Eastern Conference—a unit of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture which co-ordinates resolutions

before the annual meeting of that national organization. And she still finds time to chuckle about her most recent, and maybe most exciting and gratifying job of all.

“The provincial government said to our Federation a year ago—‘You say you need an abattoir if you are to build a sound livestock industry in the province. Well, if you can get farmers to buy \$400,000 worth of shares in it, we will put up another \$1,200,000 to help you build it.’”

“I don’t believe they thought our farmers would do it. But the goal was over-subscribed. We got \$485,000. We’ll have our abattoir in operation by the summer of 1959. Our big job now, is to stimulate farm people to produce more livestock, and there are definite signs already that they are doing that.” Mrs. Archibald is secretary-treasurer of the abattoir company, of course.

HER concern with the need for farm leaders stems largely from the uncertainty of the future of Farm Forum in this country. “Farm Forum does a wonderful job of getting people, men and women alike, to consider farm problems, and to come to logical conclusions so they can take effective action,” she explains. “If we lose Farm Forum, it will be the farmers’ own responsibility.”

She is delighted that farm women are playing a more active part in organizations now, and hazards that: “Women are generally better informed than farm men today. They have to be, to make their case heard. Men tend to overlook what we women say, so we must be even more thorough in preparing our case.”

She is convinced too, that anyone can train themselves (through Farm Forum, or in other ways) to speak effectively at meetings.

“You’ve got to be well-informed on current happenings. You must know what you are talking about, and if you do, and then screw up some courage, people will listen to you.”

To keep herself informed, Mrs. Archibald scans a massive volume of printed matter that comes over her desk.

While her job has been a strenuous one over the years, Mrs. Archibald thoroughly enjoys it. Variety is the stuff of it. She is continually meeting new people—visitors to the province, local farm people, experts from many fields. She must get to know them, to know what is happening in districts across the province. She is called on to advise local branches of the Federation on who can speak as an authority on the various subjects discussed at their meetings. In fact, she must be almost a walking encyclopedia herself.

She is particularly pleased that farm people are asking very pertinent questions at meetings today, and she is a little proud too, that she has gained enough self-confidence now to be able to admit when she can’t answer their questions. She promises to try to find the answer, though.

No wonder Nova Scotia’s Federation of Agriculture is making progress. V

Portrait of a Farmer

by EVELYN WITTER

AT a recent meeting I looked at the man sitting beside me. He looked every inch a typical farmer. Then I wondered: What is a typical farmer? I studied him more closely.

—There were laugh wrinkles all around his eyes; perhaps they were the result of squinting up into the sky for weather signs.

He had none of the pallor of indoor workers. His skin had an underlying glow from hours in the sun and wind, the snow and rain. Its very aliveness gave the man a vibrant look.

His hands were relaxed in his lap, and their composure augmented their look of capability. They were big and rough-looking, dotted with the scars of cuts and snags. Many work-hardened lines crossed and recrossed each other in a mixed-up network. Still, gentleness stood out above all the roughness. “Healing hands,” the old-timers called the strong but kind hands gentle enough to lift a newborn lamb to its mother or return a fallen bird to its nest.

His body was muscularly lean, giving the impression that he could walk over freshly plowed ground as easily as a housewife could walk over her carpeted floors.

Then I looked back into his eyes. His eyes were the first to make me think of him as a “typical” farmer. Deep-set, thoughtful eyes they were, full of kindness.

When the meeting was over I told my husband, “I’ve decided that you are a typical farmer.”

A smile crossed his face and he said: “Good! That’s a real compliment.” V



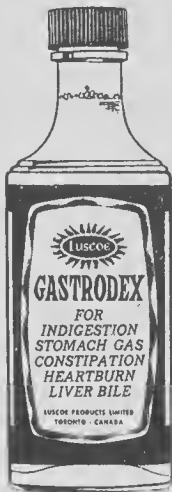
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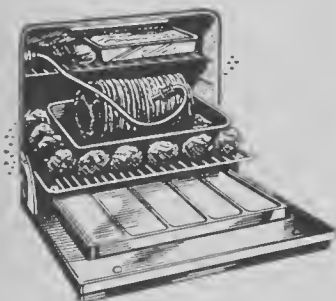
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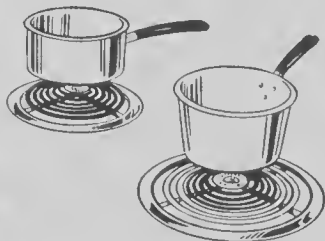


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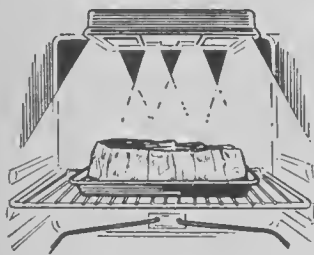
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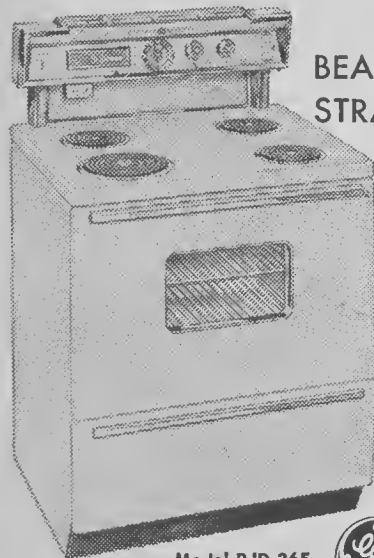
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[Arnott & Rogers photo]

A sprinkling of lemon juice before breading enhances the delicate flavor of sole. Flaky fillets, crisp and golden-crusted, are popular fare for guests or family.

Off the Hook

by GWEN LESLIE

"FISH is certainly good value but it's not popular at our house." A common comment among budget-conscious homemakers, and others, too, who realize that the exceptional price value of fish is equaled by its food value. The fault is too often with fish cookery, the dislike a result of poor preparation.

Canada's waters yield a wealth of good eating. Extensive commercial use of quick-freezing assures a year-round supply of many fish varieties. The amateur angler will shortly bear home the first catch of the new season and it's up to us to give his prize the treatment it deserves.

Because fish is lacking in connective tissue, it can be prepared by many methods and should be, for variety. Fish cooks very quickly and overcooking of fish is the most common error in its preparation. Of all foods, fish is perhaps the best foil for a colorful garnish, a complementary sauce.

Baking

Baking is one of the very best methods for cooking fish, since time and temperature can be properly controlled. Baking is suitable for fillets, steaks, pieces of fish such as salmon and halibut, whole fish, lobster, oysters, scallops, mild-cure smoked fish such as whitefish and goldeye.

Preparation may be varied:

(a) Dip fish in salted milk, then in crumbs. Place on greased shallow pan.

(b) Sprinkle fish with salt and wrap with greased aluminum foil. Secure foil with a double fold and place on baking pan.

(c) Place fish on greased shallow baking pan, season as desired and dot with fat.

(d) Place fish on greased pan, then cover with sauce or topping.

Cooking method: Using a very hot oven temperature (450°F. to 500°F.) allow 10 minutes baking time per inch thickness for fresh fish; 20 minutes per inch for unthawed frozen fish. If fish is stuffed, include stuffing when measuring depth. When baking whole lobster, allow about 20 minutes for lobster weighing 1 lb.

Poaching

Fish may be poached by simmering it in a small amount of seasoned liquid which may be thickened and served as a sauce. This can be done on top of the stove or in the oven using liquids such as milk, tomatoes, stock, etc. Fillets, steaks and pieces of smoked haddock, cod, etc., and fresh salmon, halibut, pickerel, cod and haddock are suitable for poaching.



[National Film Board photo]

Fish prepared by The Spencer Method can be baked to crusty perfection.



[Bakery Foods photo]

Citrus Stuffed Fillet Rings are not only a novelty, but a novel delight.

Cooking method: Bring liquid to a rapid boil in a pan with sides at least 3" deep. Add fish, reduce heat, cover the pan and cook at simmering temperature. Don't let the liquid boil. Liquid should just cover the fish. Cooking time depends on the thickness of the fish. Allow about 20 minutes per inch of fresh fish and cook just until fish will flake easily when tested with a fork.

Boiling

Whole fish and pieces, shrimp and lobster are suitable for boiling. Favorite varieties for boiling include salmon, haddock and cod.

The cooking method may be varied but for all you will need a deep covered pan $\frac{2}{3}$ full of liquid.

(a) Wrap fish in parchment paper, tie securely and plunge into boiling water. Allow 10 minutes per inch thickness for fresh fish, 20 minutes for frozen fish unthawed.

(b) Wrap fish in several layers of fine cheesecloth, tie securely and plunge into boiling liquid. Liquid should be kept at a steady boil. Court bouillon, stock or seasoned water, added vegetables may be used. Time as in (a).

(c) Plunge fish such as shrimp or lobster into plain or seasoned water boiling rapidly. Shrimp should be boiled no longer than 3 to 5 minutes.

Broiling

Steaks and fillets, salmon, halibut, scallops and oysters are suitable for broiling.

Cooking method: Grease the broiling pan and preheat under broiler. Place fish on prepared pan, brushing liberally with cooking oil or melted fat. Season as desired and broil 2" from source of heat for fresh fish, 6" to 8" from heat for frozen fish. Broil for a total of 10 minutes per inch thickness for fresh fish, 20 minutes for unthawed frozen fish. Fish is done when it flakes easily with a fork.

Deep Fat Frying

Deep fried fish is nicest with a cold spicy or piquant sauce. Fish for deep fat frying should not be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick; small pieces, or types of fish such as shrimps, oysters, scallops, and fillets or steaks of haddock, pickerel, cod, sole, halibut, perch, salmon, are suitable types.

Count a deep fat fryer or deep-sided kettle, wire basket and a thermometer among the equipment you will need.

Two methods are commonly used:

(a) Dip fish in a batter of eggs, flour, milk so that a coating covers it. Lower rapidly into preheated fat

and cook until done. Fish may be first dipped in lemon juice, then in batter. A temperature of 375°F. on fat thermometer is recommended to cook batter and fish without burning. Time varies with size and variety of fish, generally from 3 to 5 minutes is needed.

(b) Dip fish first in fine crumbs, then in egg and/or milk, then crumbs again. Immediately immerse in preheated deep fat at 400°F. and cook until golden brown.

Sauteeing

(Pan-frying)

This very common method should be followed with care as it is very easy to overcook the fish. Small pieces of fish, steaks and fillets, haddock, pickerel, cod, sole, halibut, whitefish, salmon, smelts and scallops may be satisfactorily sauteed.

Cooking method: Wipe fish with a damp cloth, dip in flour or crumbs, then in milk, then again in flour. Place in hot shallow fat in a frying pan and fry lightly, turning only once. Cooking time will range from 3 to 10 minutes, depending on size and variety of fish. Cracker crumbs, cornmeal, pancake mix, etc., may be used in place of seasoned flour as a coating for fish to be pan-fried.

Steaming

Steaming is popular for smoked fish such as goldeye, smoked cod or haddock and pieces of salmon or halibut.

Cooking method: Place fish on rack over steam with water level well below the rack. Steaming may be done on top of the stove or in the oven. Cooking time depends on variety of fish; goldeye and other smoked fish need only a long enough period to heat thoroughly.

Spencer Method for Fish Fillets

2 lb. fish fillets $\frac{3}{4}$ c. fine dry
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. milk bread crumbs
1 tsp. salt

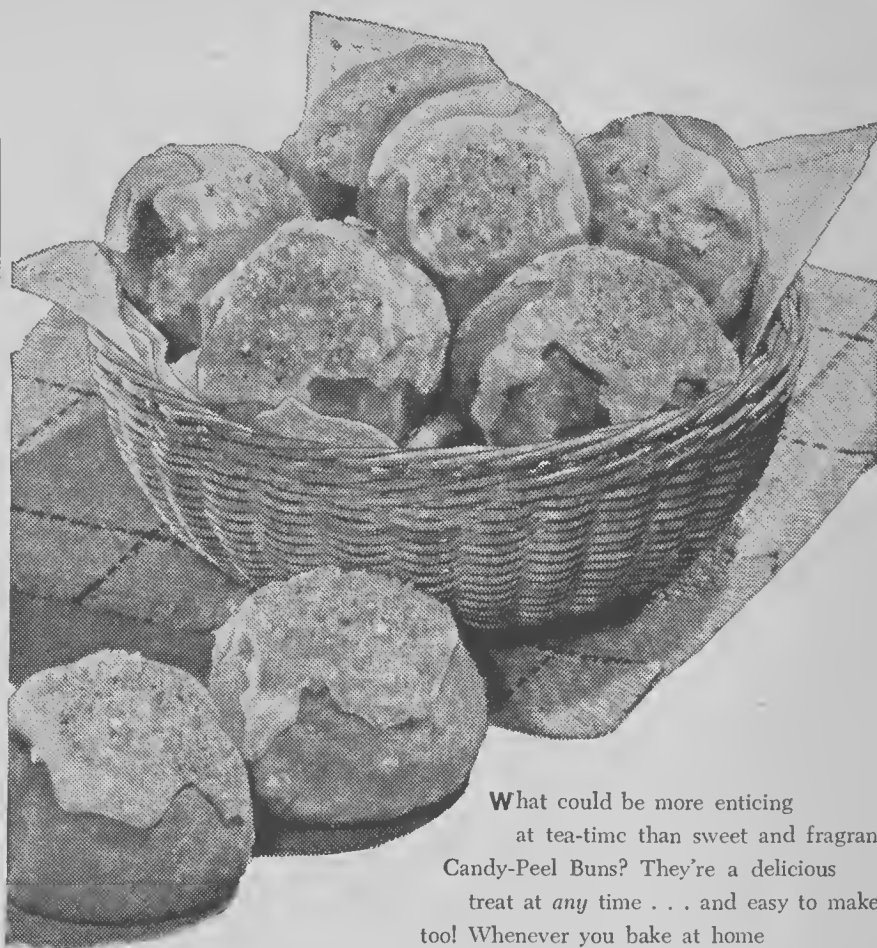
Cut fillets in individual portions and soak 3 minutes in milk to which salt has been added. Drain, then roll in dry bread crumbs. Place fish on a greased baking dish and dot with butter. Bake at 500°F (very hot oven) allowing 10 minutes per inch thickness of fish. Heat may be reduced for larger fish toward the end of cooking time. Yields 6 servings.

Stuffed Fillet Roll

2 lb. fresh water fish fillets $\frac{1}{4}$ c. butter or other fat
3 T. chopped onion 1 tsp. salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. chopped celery $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. tarragon
4 c. soft bread crumbs

Wash fillets and set aside. Fry onion and celery in fat until tender. Add sea- (Please turn to page 86)

Sweet-tooth treasures! CANDY-PEEL BUNS



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CANDY-PEEL BUNS

Measure into bowl

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm water

Stir in

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.

Meantime, sift together into a bowl

$1\frac{1}{2}$ cups once-sifted all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons granulated sugar

Mix in

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cardamom seeds

Cut in finely

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chilled shortening

and mix in

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped candied peel

Combine

3 well-beaten eggs

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla

and dissolved yeast.

Stir into flour mixture and beat until smooth

and elastic. Cover with a damp cloth. Let rise in warm place, free from draft, until doubled in bulk, about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Stir down batter.

Work in an additional

$1\frac{1}{2}$ cups (about) once-sifted all-purpose flour

Turn out dough onto a large square of cheesecloth; gather edges of cheesecloth together loosely and tie. Drop dough into a large pan of cool, but not chilled water and let stand until doubled in bulk, about 45 minutes. Remove dough from cheesecloth and place on very-well-floured board or canvas. Form into a 16-inch roll; cut roll into 16 equal pieces; form into smooth balls. Place, well apart, on greased cookie sheets. Brush with melted butter or margarine. Cover. Let rise until doubled in bulk, about 25 minutes. Bake in a hot oven, 425°, 12 to 15 minutes.

Frost while warm with the following icing and sprinkle with chopped nutmeats.

Combine 1 cup sifted icing sugar and $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla; add sufficient milk to make a stiff icing.

Yield: 16 buns.

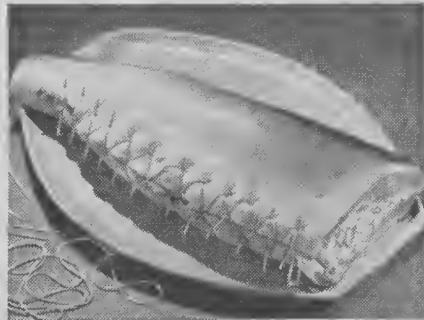


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[Crawley Films photo

Stuffed Fillet Rolls illustrate another method for the oven cookery of fish.



[National Film Board photo

Savory stuffing flavors this whole fish pictured trussed and ready for baking.

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bowels of accumulated
poisonous wastes with-
out griping or shock.
Soon your little
one is happy again.



Children Cry For
CASTORIA

TRADE MARK REG.

(Continued from page 85)

sonings and bread crumbs. Place approx-
imately 2 T. of dressing on each fillet.
Roll the fillets lengthwise as for jelly roll
and secure with toothpicks if rolls are to
be baked in a greased pan. No toothpick
is needed if rolls are baked in greased
custard cups. Bake at 450°F to 500°F
(hot oven) about 10 minutes per inch
thickness of fish and dressing. Yields
about 6 servings.

Citrus Stuffed Fillets

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1/4 c. melted butter
or margarine | 1 T. minced
parsley |
| 1/4 c. chopped
onion | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1/3 c. chopped
celery | 1/2 tsp. poultry
seasoning |
| 4 c. toasted 1/2"
bread cubes | 1/8 tsp. pepper |
| 1 c. diced grape-
fruit sections | 1/4 c. grapefruit
juice |
| | 6 fish fillets
(about 2 lb.) |

Saute onion and celery in melted but-
ter until tender. Pour over bread cubes,
grapefruit sections and seasonings. Add
grapefruit juice and mix lightly but well.

Cut each fillet in half, lengthwise. Line
12 large well-greased muffin tins with
fish fillet pieces, placing skin side toward
center of the pan. Fillets may be skinned,
if preferred.

Place 1/4 cup of stuffing in the center
of each fillet. Bake at 350°F (moderate
oven) for 40 minutes. Yields 12 stuffed
fillets or 6 servings.

Fish Sauces

Most fish is enhanced by a piquant
sauce. The sauce may be spread on the
fish or served separately and may be
either hot or cold. The ingredients may
be very few, as called for in the recipe
for Lemon Butter, or the number may be
larger and include subtle spicy season-
ings.

Lemon Butter

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 4 T. butter | 1/8 tsp. pepper |
| 1 tsp. lemon juice | |

Blend ingredients thoroughly and
spread on hot fish. Garnish with lemon
wedges and serve at once.

Celery Seed Herb Butter

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1/4 lb. butter | 1 tsp. pulverized
dried parsley,
optional |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | |
| 1/8 tsp. white
pepper | 2 tsp. whole celery
seed |
| 1/8 tsp. cayenne
pepper | 1 tsp. lemon juice |

Cream butter, add salt, white pepper,
cayenne and celery seed. When very
smooth add lemon juice and parsley, if
desired. Blend well. Let stand at room
temperature for 1 hour so that herbs
permeate butter. Refrigerate 1 hour
before using.

Variations: Omit parsley.

Use 1 1/2 tsp. whole caraway seed or 2
tsp. whole poppy seed instead of celery
seed.

Cucumber Sauce

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 c. finely
chopped peeled
cucumber | 1/8 tsp. finely
ground white
pepper |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | 1/2 c. heavy cream,
whipped |
| 1 T. sugar | |
| 1 T. cider vinegar | |

Combine cucumber and salt; let stand
in a covered jar in the refrigerator for at
least 1 hour. Drain and mix with sugar,
vinegar and white pepper. Just before
serving, fold in whipped cream. Serve
over baked salmon steaks, broiled fillet
of haddock or other fish.

Broiled Steaks

with coffee butter

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 2 lb. fish steaks
(halibut,
salmon, etc.) | 1/4 c. melted butter
or margarine |
| 1 T. lemon juice | 1/4 tsp. onion salt |
| 1 T. instant coffee | Chopped parsley,
as desired |

If steaks have been frozen, thaw them
on refrigerator shelf or at room tempera-
ture. Combine lemon juice and instant
coffee; add melted butter, onion salt and
chopped parsley. Brush this mixture
liberally on fish steaks and broil 3" from
source of heat for 5 minutes. Turn fish
and brush again with butter mixture.
Broil 5 minutes or until fish flakes easily
with a fork. Brush again with butter mix-
ture and serve with additional parsley as
garnish. Yields 4 to 6 servings.

* * *

Key to Abbreviations

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| tsp.—teaspoon | oz.—ounce |
| T.—tablespoon | lb.—pound |
| c.—cup | pt.—pint |
| pkg.—package | qt.—quart |



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his own successful future.

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

Imagination and Ingenuity Beautify This Manitoba Farm

by GWEN LESLIE

THE earth is slowly emerging from its wintry blanket of snow. But although the earth has rested the long winter through, its owner has not. Ed Wilson of Reston, Man., spends many hours each winter planning the coming season's improvements and building decorative accessories for his farm grounds.

His efforts are not unrecognized. Guests from all parts of Canada have signed the visitors' books so hospitably proffered in the attached garage, transformed for the summer season into an outdoor living area open on two sides. Strangers and friends return each year, watching the development of the property which last year won The Country Guide Trophy. Mr. Wilson's farm was judged Reserve Grand Champion in the annual Farm Home Grounds competition sponsored by the Manitoba Horticultural Association.

Although the farm was under cultivation, no home site existed until 1947. The only planting done up to that time was a shelterbelt of willows which now offers tall, graceful protection for rows of blue spruce. Flower beds surround Mr. Wilson's bachelor dwelling, an old house adapted to this location.

These prize-winning grounds benefit from planned development. Cement sidewalks and garage approach were new last year. This was not the first cement work; a curb defines one flower bed and a cement step-down wall topped with decorative fencing divides the terraced lawn from a children's play area. The wall as well as the wooden play equipment testify to this gardener's versatility, both garden and construction being his own work.

Beyond the house, the driveway curves on between the vegetable garden nestled in a horseshoe ravine and the Pipestone Creek which forms the ravine. The driveway ends at a small picnic area sheltered by a stand of natural woodland.

Mr. Wilson harnesses the creek with a pressure system. Ready access to water was particularly important to gardeners in this area last year. The lazy charm of the creek provides further scope for beautification and boasts a foot-bridge built on a foundation of local stone.



Mr. Wilson is justifiably proud of his attractive farm home grounds.

The broad shallow bird bath and bird house in the orchard are rarely empty. The orchard, begun 2 years ago, is "just in the making," Mr. Wilson says. In addition to fruit trees and decorative planting it features mountain ash and hawthorn to provide food for the winter birds.

Close neighbors offer friendly rivalry. Brother Gordon and his wife live just a mile away on the old Wilson family farm. Winners for two consecutive years in the Pipestone-Albert Agricultural Society municipal home grounds competition, they have 2 years to develop their property further before re-entering. V



Tall trees offer shade for guests who pause to admire profuse blooms.



Hospitable picnic and play areas extend the welcome lettered on this arch.

[Guide photos



STORY WITH A HAPPY ENDING

Mmm, look at that light, flaky pie crust, baked to a tender golden brown. And that luscious filling! Who wouldn't be proud and pleased? But the story really isn't over yet. Not till she sets it before her admiring family. "Happy endings" like this, of course, are no accident. They start with a good recipe book, followed carefully, and a quality all-purpose flour you can depend on... Five Roses is happy to be able to supply you with both. To get your copy of the famous "Five Roses Guide To Good Cooking" send 50¢ to: Five Roses, Box 6089, Montreal.

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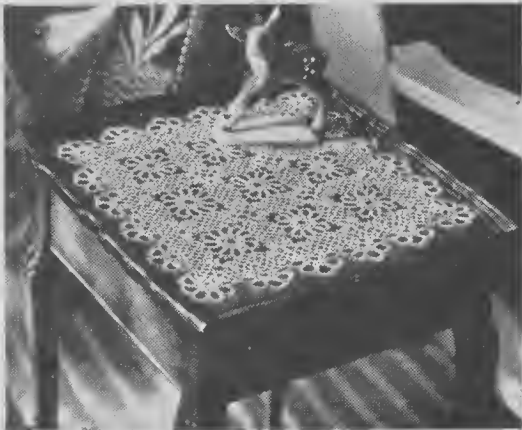
HAMMOND ORGAN WESTERN EXPORT CORP. CG4

HANDICRAFTS

Crocheted Accessories



As dainty as spring blossoms and as welcome to feminine hearts, these hand-edged hankies make beautiful gifts for birthdays and other occasions. Instructions for three tatted edgings are given in one leaflet, one edging suitable for a hand-rolled handkerchief 12" square, one for 13" square, one for a scalloped edge handkerchief 12" square. Leaflet No. C-S-206 costs 10 cents.



The traditional dignity of the medallion design enhances this decorative tatted mat. Finished measure for the mat is 12½" square, each medallion being 3" square. Complete tatting instructions are given in leaflet No. T-P.T. 9087, price 10 cents.

"Balsam Cone" is the name given the design for this attractive Oregon modern tablecloth. Round tablecloths are reclaiming favor rapidly as fickle fashion again declares them stylish. Equally suited to formal elegance or informal table settings with modern

tableware, this crocheted cloth falls easily in artful drapery. Finished measure is 66" in diameter. Leaflet No. C-S-447 includes complete crochet instructions with illustration. Price 10 cents.



For handicraft patterns pictured above please address your order to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man.

POWERFUL CLEANING ACTION AT A PRICE THAT SAYS "BUY"



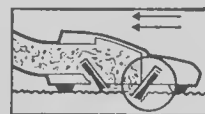
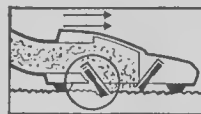
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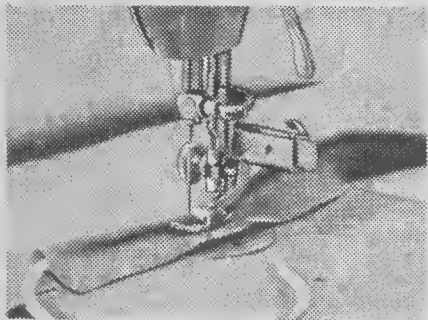
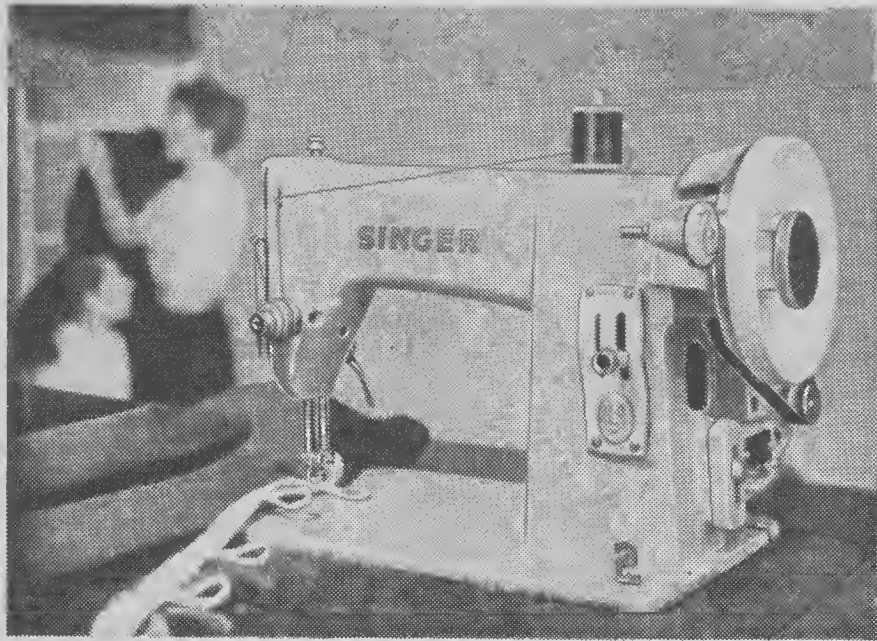
Constant Cleaning Power . . . increased air-flow design keeps the power constant — even as the bag fills up high with dirt.



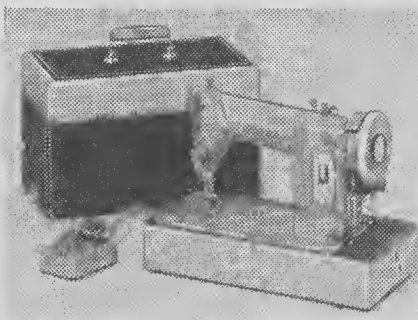
GENERAL ELECTRIC SWIVEL-TOP CLEANER

CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED

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Our Readers Suggest

You can prevent the black ridge from forming on your apron or dress when working around built-in cupboards or chrome tables that have aluminum stripping around the edge. Rub the stripping with wax and polish when dry.

To remove paint from your hands and arms, rub with a mixture of small amounts of turpentine and vaseline. The vaseline prevents the turpentine from burning the skin.—*Grace Fullerton, Paisley, Ont.*

Remove scratches from walnut or mahogany furniture by vigorously rubbing the scratch with a shelled walnut. The oil from the walnut will cover the mark and in most cases, entirely obliterate it. This treatment is especially effective for newly-made scratches. — *Miss Hilda Tiefenbach, Regina, Sask.*

Sew a different colored thread at the top of each pair of stockings for easy identification and matching.

When the fingers of woolen or other gloves need repairing, slip a thimble on the corresponding finger of your hand and darn without fear of injuring your finger or stitching out of place.

If you have trouble finding light switches or push buttons in dark rooms, give them a touch-up job with luminous paint and you'll never again have to grope for the desired switch.—*Mrs. Marthe Friederici, Arborg, Man.*

You can save yourself time and also encourage tidiness by making shoe bags for children's shoes, mitts and toys. Hang the bags up at the children's level and they will be able to put things away themselves. Screw in hooks at a height within the children's reach so they can hang up their coats and hats.

To save time when washing pots and pans, make use of heat in a warm oven by placing rinsed pots in the oven to dry. Leave the oven door open. Parts from the separator can also be dried this way after scalding.—*Mrs. G. Rushforth, Eriksdale, Man.*

To save wear on the corners of an oilcloth covering for the kitchen table, try pasting a piece of calico about 9" square on the wrong side of each corner. The oilcloth cover will last much longer.

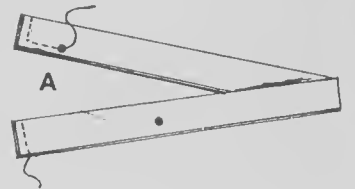
Here is a quick and easy way to soften butter that is too hard to spread: Just place a hot bowl over the butter for a few minutes. This softens the butter but does not melt it.—*Mrs. R. T. Evans, Lightwoods, Sask.*

Readers who have household hints which they find useful are invited to share them. Address contributions to Home and Family, The Country Guide, 1760 Ellice Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man.

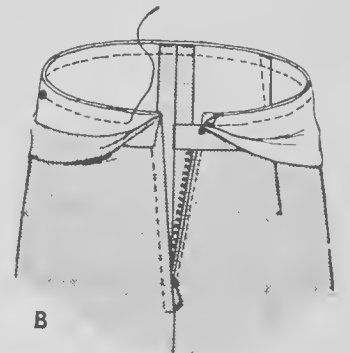
Clip and Save Sewing Hints

Attaching A Skirt Band

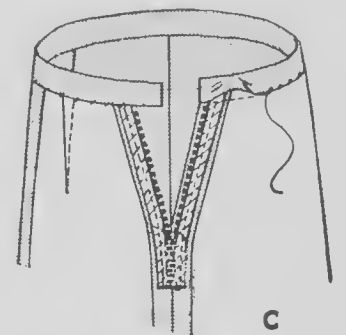
A NEATLY attached skirt band is one of the finishing details so important if your home sewing is to do you credit. Often separate skirts and blouses can be co-ordinated for an all-in-one-piece costume look, and proper finishing of the skirt band is essential.



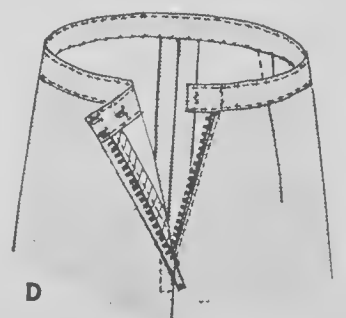
A. Fold skirt band and stitch ends, continuing across to the medium dot at back end. Trim seams at ends. Turn to right side and press.



B. Pin band to skirt, right sides together, having medium dots at center front and back end. Baste and stitch. Press seam up.



C. Turn in free edge of band; hem over seam.



D. Top-stitch 1/8" from all edges.

Summer Separates

Mix-or-match fashions offer the wardrobe versatility you need to keep cool and carefree through the summer months

No. 8959 — This one-pattern wardrobe is designed to meet the everyday needs of little and not-so-little girls all through summer's season. Mix-or-match fashions feature a tailored shirt with roll-up sleeves or none at all, full skirt elasticized at back, bermuda shorts and pedal pushers. Match or contrast the dashing sash or run a purchased belt through fabric patch belt carriers. Girls' sizes 4, 6, 8, 10, 12. Price 45 cents.



No. 8432 — Polo-shirt styling highlights this summer set. Make the blouse in matching check or complementary tone to top a skirt that's straight or full. Straight skirt features button-down belt tabs and kick pleat at back; swirling skirt has action fullness. Sub-teen sizes 8s, 10s, 12s, 14s. Price 35 cents.



No. 8928—In separates you can be well-dressed *and* cool. Loose overblouse with high-line detail may be short-sleeved or sleeveless; Empire line may be marked by bow and knot or band ties in place of flaps. Trimly fitted skirt has back pleat. Jr. Misses' sizes 11, 13; Misses' sizes 12, 14, 16, 18. Price 65 cents.

The Country Guide Pattern Department

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Winnipeg 12, Man.

528 Evans Ave.,
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Please send Butterick

Pattern No. _____ Size _____ Price _____

Pattern No. _____ Size _____ Price _____

To _____

Co-operation in The Nursery School

by LYN HARRINGTON



The playground at St. Patrick's Nursery School is a favorite place of (l. to r.): Richard Wassill, 5, Derek Crawford, 5½, and Brenda Crittenden, now turned 6. Brenda, at 6, has outgrown the right to use the swings and other equipment.

CO-OPERATION in Saskatchewan can start in a nursery school. Hudson Bay, a junction of the Canadian National Railways, has just such a co-operative venture. The women bubble with enthusiasm, it's such a boon to busy mothers.

It all started with a busy father.

Rev. H. Miller, of St. Patrick's Anglican Church, had half a dozen youngsters of his own. In 1952, he proposed the idea of morning classes for pre-school youngsters.

"It will keep them off the street," he pointed out. "And they can learn a great deal before they start school. They'll learn to co-operate with one another and with adults."

Mr. Miller knew something of child psychology, and was willing to learn more. He interested the women of Hudson Bay, and they in turn aroused their husbands. Together, the fathers and mothers made nursery school furniture, and the women painted it in bright primary colors. It's freshly painted for each season.

Mr. Miller acted as supervisor in the nursery school, with the help of a couple of mothers. Not only were the children happier in the play school, but they were actually easier to get along with when they came home.

"But my goodness, when it's a mother's turn to supervise the school," said Mrs. Fern Hawke laughing, "why then her children are usually the worst of the group. We've all found it so."

Mr. Miller was called to another parish several years ago, but the work he began still flourishes. The charming little playground on the main street attracts the eye at once, even in the rain, as I first saw it. It's open to any 3- to 6-year-olds, whether in the nursery group or not. The parish hall, used for the group classes, is

bright and pretty with gaily-painted small-size furniture.

The season begins in September, with the regular school session. First comes the monthly meeting to discuss policy, then the opening tea and bake-sale. This is to raise money, of course, but it's also meant to publicize the work of the nursery school. And every mother in the group is an ardent propagandist.

"Our fees are \$5 a family for initial registration," Fern Hawke told me, "and then \$3 a month. And of course, we mothers take turns at helping the supervisor. We pay her \$15 a month, though really she's beyond price. Two of us help each Tuesday and Friday mornings, one working with the supervisor and the children, the other in the kitchen."

It might be ideal to have nursery school 5 days of the week, and indeed, the mothers are urging creation of a kindergarten. Twice a week is as often as they feel able to run the school at present, since many mothers still have smaller babies in the family. They do add an extra Saturday morning class in May and June, to indoctrinate the youngsters for real school in September.

As with most nursery schools, the program is varied to suit the short attention-span of the little pupils.

They look at books in the library, and hear a story told. There is a corner for blocks, another for music records. Here are some easels for tiny artists, scissors and paper for others. The youngsters are toilet-trained, they say grace for their lunch, they rest and have a free-play period.

There's nothing whimsical about all this. The mothers have a study group, for studying pre-school education, using a manual from the Univer-

sity of British Columbia Extension Department.

They fill out a questionnaire before entering the children in the play school. This is meant to be a benefit to the supervisor. But it serves another wonderful purpose — it makes the mother look at her child objectively. She sees him as he really is.

Last winter, there were 14 children in the school, with 9 mothers. A couple of the youngsters were farm children who moved into town for the winter. The group is inter-denominational, and open to any mother who cares to join and is willing to carry her share of responsibility.

These little tads in nursery school have some privileges older children envy. By arrangement, the nursery group was allowed to clamber all over a diesel engine down at the roundhouse, something few of their elders

had done. At the post office, each child was permitted to cancel one letter. The telephone supervisor allowed them inside her booth, to don earphones and talk to their mothers. To encourage thoughtfulness of others, the youngsters went out into the fields to gather wild crocuses for the hospital patients.

"This kind of training is wonderful for pre-schoolers," said one teacher. "They learn how to get along with other children, and they already know something about schedules. They can handle coats and boots better than most children of their age. And they're actually ready for Grade 1."

I met one mother near the playground. "Oh my, the nursery school has been wonderful for my little boy," she told me. "He simply wouldn't talk, and I was very worried. Well, after a few days at nursery school he began to come along nicely, and now he's perfectly normal."

Setting up such a nursery school can be done in any community that feels the need. It does require some sacrifice of time, a considerable amount of study, and a great deal of good will for the neighbors' children. But judging by the experience of the Hudson Bay women, it's more than worthwhile. V

Even a Little Den Is Handy

IF you have a small storeroom in your home, consider making it into a den where you can occasionally lie down for a rest away from all the household noises. This could also be a place where you could "bed down" that friend who stops off between trains for an overnight visit.

Many a wasted room has been turned into an attractive den by clearing it of much of the stuff that has collected. Incidentally, why not pass the discards on to the Salvation Army or Good Will Industries where it can do some good?

Once the room is cleared, give it a good cleaning. If you have a cot-bed, cover it with inexpensive material, making curtains to match for the windows. Dig up those sofa pillows that haven't been used, and cover them with colors that will go well with the curtains and couch-cover. Add a small table at each end of the couch, and a lamp, and perhaps an easy chair to the room. There may be a place for your sewing machine in this den. If so, it would be an excellent spot, because you could leave your sewing at any stage, close the door, and no one be the wiser.—Louise Price Bell. V



A Matter of Concern

WORLD Health Day, April 7, 1959, marked the eleventh anniversary of the World Health Organization. Of the many days and weeks claimed by various organizations, this is one of significance to all of us.

Mental illness, alarming in its increase, has become a major concern of our time. If bodily disease reached the same proportions an epidemic would be declared. It is an international problem, although it is more acute in countries of high economic development such as ours. The increase appears to go hand in hand with industrialization and advanced technology. Fortunately, there has been rapid progress in the treatment and prevention of mental disorder; there is a better understanding of the strains and stresses that gravely affect everyday behavior and influence the well-being of mankind. Society is gradually losing its horror of mental disease, realizing that it is curable in the same way as any other sickness.

"Mental Illness and Mental Health in the World of Today" was chosen as the theme for World Health Day this year. Dr. M. G. Candau, director-general of the World Health Organization has brought the topic very close to home by stating the underlined truth in current research: "... closely-knit family ties and a stable social structure are the best safeguards against the later development of mental health troubles."

A PROMINENT child psychologist, Dr. Reza de Acosta of Argentina, says, "Getting the right start in life depends on the atmosphere in which a child is brought up, and on the people among whom he lives. Love, understanding and respect, together with a firm and consistent discipline that avoids severity, are the essential elements if children are to grow up in robust mental health."

Thus, a prime responsibility for mental health lies with us as individuals in our daily living. If anything is our own, it is our minds. The responsibility we bear for ourselves extends to relations with other people. Since mental health is largely a question of human relations, of the attitude of a person to his fellow men, mental health is something very personal and closely connected with each person's mental make-up, his attitudes in life, his beliefs, his ideals, the things he finds valuable, worthwhile and admirable.

However, there is a public responsibility in the realm of mental health. The general health of the people is now almost universally recognized as a public responsibility. In matters of health there are a number of activities which must be organized and need the backing of authority as well as the financial resources of the government to be carried out. Control of drugs, control of food and drink, protection against epidemics, water supply and sewage disposal in larger communities — these are matters that cannot be left to the initiative and the resources of the individual or to the activity of private bodies since they are the concern of society as a whole.

The responsibility of government toward mental health is more subtle and more difficult to define than in regard to general health. Because mental health is not only a matter of relations between persons, but also of the individual's relation toward the community he lives in and the society in which the community exists, there are social institutions involved which are a public responsibility. The school, church, public health system, the police, the army and industry all affect the individual's way of living, working, and leisure, the way he seeks his happiness, his stability and security. Neurosis is very often the result of the interaction of the individual with the environment in which he lives. It has been suggested that if the social institutions in their activities express the respect due to the individual, this health-giving attitude would permeate the whole society and thus contribute more to the mental health of its members than any other public action could.

The stress and strain of modern living cause many forms of tension, and varying degrees of tension in different people. Under enough pressure, continued over a long period of time, anyone can be overwhelmed and bend. All of us have a breaking point. It is important to recognize the cause of tension in ourselves and to combat it or resolve it effectively. An outlet in recreation or group activity may be desirable. Dr. W. C. Menninger, president of the Menninger Foundation, has said that what the world needs most is people who will give of themselves to the needs of the family, the community, the state, the nation and the world. What a person needs most is to be wanted and necessary. To do this implies that adults must grow up emotionally to the point that they find more satisfaction in giving than in receiving.

Dr. Menninger has drawn up the following questionnaire:

ARE YOU MENTALLY HEALTHY?

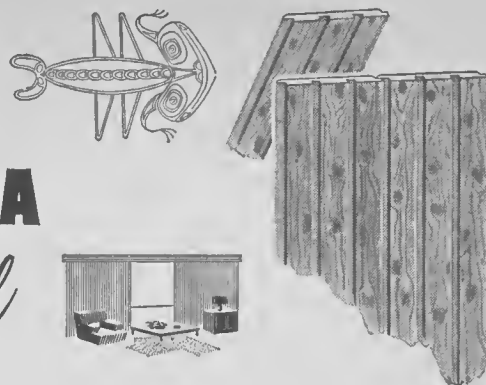
- Are you *always* worrying?
- Are you *unable* to concentrate because of unrecognized reasons?
- Are you *continually* unhappy without justified cause?
- Do you lose your temper *easily* and *often*?
- Are you troubled by *regular* insomnia?
- Do you have wide fluctuations in your moods, from depression to elation, back to depression, which *incapacitate* you?
- Do you *continually* dislike to be with people?
- Are you *upset* if the routine of your life is disturbed?
- Do your children *consistently* get on your nerves?
- Are you "browed off" and *constantly* bitter?
- Are you *always* right and the other person *always* wrong?
- Do you have *numerous* aches and pains for which no doctor can find a physical cause?
- The conditions charted in these questions are the major warning signals of poor mental health in one de-

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Once inserted, Zonitors dissolve gradually, coating tissues with a protective film which lasts for hours — and are ready to work instantly. Zonitors guard against — destroy odors completely, too — helping to maintain a high degree of comfort, convenience, safety and personal daintiness not possible with

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Zonitors' amazing effectiveness is due to one of the most potent antiseptic principles ever developed — the discovery of a prominent surgeon and chemist.

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Zonitors were thoroughly tested in a large Eastern hospital. The supervising gynecologist pronounced them unusually effective, yet safe and non-irritating. They are now available without prescription in most local drugstores.

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gree or another. Help is necessary if your answer to any of these questions is definitely "yes."

REAL MENTAL HEALTH

The characteristics of the mentally healthy individual are those of the people we like best and most would like to resemble; they are the characteristics of a mature, happy person well-adjusted to his surroundings.

The mentally healthy person is in control of himself and of the situation; he can deal constructively with reality even at its worst. He gets satisfaction from struggle particularly as he turns adversity into achievement. He finds greater satisfaction in giving than in receiving (this is as old as the Christian writings). He is relatively free from tensions and anxieties. He relates himself consistently to others with mutual satisfaction and helpfulness. He can accept present frustration for future gain and learns to profit from experience. He can direct hostile feelings into creative and constructive outlets, is self-restrained and self-disciplined.

Finally, the mentally healthy person has a capacity to love, and this is the highest and most essential quality of all.—G.L. ✓

April's Message

by GRACE V. SCHILLINGER

HOW do you feel these early spring days when you hear a meadow lark singing as you drive down the road? Or when you hear a toad telling you he's glad he found such a fine big pond? Or when you see dandelions growing bigger and greener on the road banks?

Do you want to gather your cleaning gadgets, run hot water into the scrub pail and get busy with spring cleaning? This is one message I receive.

But there's another, a much lovelier one. I'm not the least bit reluctant about obeying it for this April message commands in such a beautiful way.

April makes me leave the car for a long, leisurely walk, the meadow lark and the toad and the dandelions leading on to other things. I like to see how clear the water runs in our little creek, see the stones in the bottom, each one as clean and polished as winter ice can make it. A pair of killdeer run on the bank close by, now and then telling me in their shrill calls they do wish people would stay away from their nesting place.

I leave the road, climb up on the steep bank and peep under the hedge thicket. Sure enough! The hepaticas are out. Their blossoms are mostly white with sometimes a blossom or two with a pink or lavender cast. The blooms stand well above the decayed leaves and twigs from which they grow. The hepatica leaves will appear as soon as the plant is finished blooming. Each little flower stem is covered with downy hairs.

No matter how low my spirits may have been when I left our farmhouse, they rise again after the long walk.

When I open the windows in the house to let in some of that spring air, I sniff extra hard, and if I do a bit of imagining I can smell summer coming across the hills to the south. ✓

Mother's Present

by LEE SCHACTER

A WEEK before Mother's Day, Daddy gave Nancy a quarter to buy a present for Mother.

"Now you must be careful," he warned Nancy, "don't lose that money because I won't give you any more."

Daddy also gave Harry and Barbara a quarter each. He did not warn them not to lose their money. They were older than Nancy, and much more careful with their things than she was with hers.

Nancy put her quarter in her pocket. She took it out of her pocket to look at it. Then she put it back. She took it out a second time. She put it back. She took it out once again. And then she lost it.

She started to cry.

"Please, please, Daddy," she begged, "give me another quarter. I promise I won't lose it."

"No," he said.

"Please lend me some money," Nancy asked Barbara.

"No," said Barbara.

Next she went to Harry. "Please lend me some money. I will be your slave," Nancy promised.

"No," he said. "You wouldn't make a good slave. You can't do anything properly."

Nancy started to cry again. She cried and cried. Then she stopped.

"Crying won't help," she said to herself. "But what can I do?"

She knew both Harry and Barbara were going to buy lovely presents for Mother.

"I wish I could make something," she thought. But oh, dear, what could she make?

She could not sew, she could not knit and she could not bake. She was not even very good at tidying up, and Mother always had to tell her to pick up her things. If Mother didn't tell her, she forgot.

What could she do? "Surely there must be one single thing I can do!"

But what was that thing?

She thought and thought, and now Mother's Day was only two days away.

Harry and Barbara already had their presents for Mother. Nancy had seen them, all beautifully wrapped up in Mother's Day paper.

Suddenly she had an idea!

"There is something I can do!" she cried.

She gathered together all the things she needed and went to her room. She closed the door and would not let anyone in to see what she was doing.

"Come on, open the door," begged Harry.

"No," said Nancy.

"Come on, let's see what you're doing," begged Barbara.

The answer was still no.

She would not let anyone come in. She worked and worked, behind the closed door.

At last it was Sunday, Mother's Day.

DADDY, Barbara, Harry and Nancy made breakfast for Mother. They fixed the breakfast on a tray. Then Daddy put some flowers in a vase on

the tray, and Harry and Barbara added their pretty presents.

Everyone looked at Nancy. She shook her head. "I'll bring Mother my present afterwards," she said.

So Daddy picked up the tray, and with the children behind him, he went up into the bedroom, where Mother was still fast asleep.

"Happy Mother's Day!" they called.

Mother sat up in bed. She was so surprised!

"Oh!" she cried. "Oh, how lovely!"

She smelled the lovely flowers, opened up the presents, and kissed everyone.

"But where is Nancy?" she asked.

"Here I am," called Nancy, from the doorway. She was holding her hands behind her back.

"Happy Mother's Day," she said, putting her present on the tray.

"Well," said Mother, "what is this?"

"I made it," said Nancy, shyly.

Mother picked up Nancy's present. Nancy had made Mother a beautiful card. There was a big red heart on the front of the card, and all around the heart were pretty flowers, each flower a different kind, and a different color. Underneath the heart was printed "MOTHER."

"Open the heart," Nancy said.

Mother opened the heart. There was another heart underneath, just a wee bit smaller. "Open it up," Nancy said.

Mother opened the second heart. Underneath was still another heart.

"Open it up," Nancy said.

Mother opened up the third heart to find a printed message saying: "I love you. Nancy."

Mother hugged Nancy.

"This is the nicest card I ever received," she said. "I'll keep it forever."

Then she kissed everyone again, and said: "What a lovely Mother's Day this is going to be!" ✓

Peanut Lapel Favors

PEANUT girl lapel pins are fun to make for party favors. To make one, take six peanuts (in the shell, of course) and sew them together with needle and thread. Use one peanut for the body, two for legs, two for arms and a smaller one for the head.

Draw lips, eyes and mouth on the small nut for a face. Five or six short strands of yarn can be glued on top to make your peanut girl's hair.

Now sew her on a ribbon bow and attach a safety pin to the back of the bow. She's ready to be worn—and eaten later.—Evelyn Witter. ✓

Eggshell Fun

EGGSHELLS make dandy little flowerpots. Save the shells after Mother has baked a cake or scrambled eggs. Fill the largest half of the shell with dirt. Now plant a bean, grapefruit seed or lemon seed in each one. Cut out a row of the egg holders in an egg carton. Set each of the little flowerpots in one of the egg holders. Now set the row of eggshell flowerpots in a sunny window and watch them grow.—Marion Ullmark. ✓

My Neighbor's Pony

*My neighbor has a pony,
Mountie is his name.
He's black as black can be,
Even tail and mane.*

*She said I could borrow him
And keep him at our farm.
I was very pleased and said,
He won't do any harm.*

*When I got on Mountie
To my surprise, I found
Mountie dearly loved to buck
And I fell on the ground.*

*I cautiously approached him,
He seemed to give a grin
As I came near he ran at me
And bit me on the shin.*

*I ran in the house to look,
But it wasn't much.
I decided to send him home
As soon as I had lunch.*

*The neighbor's son came over
To ride him home that day,
While he mounted we held
the reins
Or else he'd run away.*

*She offered me another one
To ride if I would like,
But until I'm sure he doesn't
buck,
I'd rather ride my bike.*

—Lois Reischman, age 11,
Langley, B.C.

Step by Step

You are given one word to start, and told the word at which you must end; in the first instance, it is JACK and JILL. Between them are phrases and single words for which you must find one-word meanings that look similar to the word immediately above and are formed by dropping one letter from the word above. Work down the column this way, and you should end up with the correct final word. (Answers are on page 96.)

From JACK to JILL
(five steps)

JACK

A bag

Ill

A soft material

Window foundation

JILL

From FOOD to DISH
(seven steps)

FOOD

Product of trees

Part of language

Had on a garment

Slender strand of metal

Prudent

Desire

DISH

From PLAY to WORK
(eight steps)

PLAY

Modeling material

To applaud

A crack in the skin

To cut with a sharp tool

A place for chickens

To prepare food

A bottle stopper

WORK

—MILDRED L. ACKERMAN.

Young People

On the farm and at home



Club Roundup



Exhibits at Alberta's Annual Junior Seed Fair held in Edmonton last month drew rapt attention from these 4-H members. There were nearly 400 entries.

WASHINGTON, D.C., one of the world's most beautiful cities, is the destination for a group of 4-H club members in June. They will have the honor of being the first delegates to represent Canada at the National Conference on 4-H Clubs being held in the United States capital. Delegates, whose expenses will be paid by the Canadian Council of 4-H Clubs, gather in Ottawa for a 1-day briefing before they leave for Washington as a group. Selection will alternate on a yearly basis between boys and girls.

James D. Moore, secretary-manager of the Council, reports a new high in Canada's 4-H club activities, with 73,881 members enrolled in 5,118 clubs. Girls outnumbered boys for the second successive year. The most popular activities of 4-H members were clothing, dairy and beef calf projects.

Terry Vecman and Ken Serdula, both of whom represented Saskatchewan at National 4-H Club Weeks, have received important awards to help them continue their studies. Terry won the General Motors scholarship which covers cost of living, books and tuition for a 4-year course. He is now enrolled as a first-year student in agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan. Ken was awarded an Athlone Fellowship for graduate studies in engineering in the United Kingdom covering cost of living, transportation and tuition. He is now in third year engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

ONTARIO

4-H Conservation Clubs in Waterloo County have as their purpose the promotion of a better understanding of soil conservation and other natural resources; proper soil management; the development of leaders; and community co-operation. Club members have to seed and manage 2 acres of forage crops and maintain records

on the progress and yield of the plot over a 2-year period. They also seed a small plot with 10 different legumes and grasses; take soil samples from their plots; study recommended land use practices and photograph the effects of soil erosion. Educational tours to observe flood control programs, tree nurseries and reforested areas are an important part of each year's program.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan now has its fourth 4-H sheep club. It was organized at Prince Albert with a membership of 40 enthusiastic boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 21 years.

In provincial efficiency competitions, Shaunavon 4-H Grain Club won first place for the second consecutive year over 196 grain clubs active in the province. Rosthern Swine Club took top place in its class and Melville Poultry Club placed first among poultry clubs. Altona Club at Osler was awarded first honors among the province's dairy clubs. A comparable award went to Moose Jaw Beef Club which competed with the 300 beef clubs now organized in Saskatchewan.

MANITOBA

Manitoba 4-H Sugar Beet Clubs produced beets that netted nearly a million pounds of sugar last year and two award-winning members. Roselyn Hiebert, of Tourond Sugar Beet Club in the Red River Valley, won the provincial trophy for general proficiency over 300 competitors. Jacob Sawatsky, Fertile Valley Sugar Beet Club, received a trophy for the best 1-acre plot grown by a 4-H member.

Boisvevain 4-H Seed Club was named the best of its kind in Manitoba for the fourth consecutive year. Its projects included co-sponsorship of a soil conservation meeting and field day at the local illustration station.

Awards were made to Beef Calf Club members Delores Myers, Grandview; Harvey Renwick, Coulter; Betty Northcott, Minnedosa; Lal Crampton, Manitou; Don Lovatt, Hayfield; and Carman Falloon, Birtle. Beef Calf Club members are learning by doing for 96 per cent of their calves, when marketed, qualified for the top two grades.

Annabelle Jack, Strathclair, received a trophy for her outstanding 4-H poultry club work. She was also winner of the Manitoba 4-H weeds essay competition and runner-up in interstate and interprovincial competitions. V

Vocational Schools

SOUTH of Canada's border, some 2,500 farm boys are enrolled for agricultural instruction in the vocational agriculture departments of 59 North Dakota schools. Farm programs are part of the course and instruction is given both on the farm and in the classroom. In addition to the 4 years of vocational agriculture, which includes instruction in farm mechanics, each boy must enroll in 3 regular high school classes, such as English, mathematics and science. V

A Fun Bag for You

DO you want a bag that's fun to make? Try this then! Cut the top from one of the mesh bags that onions or potatoes come in, measuring so that the bag is about 12 inches deep after the top is cut off. Now turn the top edge down 2 inches on the inside of the bag.

Weave bright colored narrow ribbon or yarn through the mesh in a pattern or a hit-and-miss design. As a finishing decorative touch, tie perky little bows of the ribbon at different places on the bag.

To make a closing drawstring for your Fun Bag, choose a 12-inch length of ribbon. Starting at one side of the bag, about one inch from the top, weave the ribbon in and out through the mesh in a full circle. Tie the two ends of the ribbon together in a firm knot. Now do exactly the same thing with another length of ribbon, only this time start on the opposite side of the bag, a little below the first ribbon.

Everybody will admire your handiwork, and you'll be busy showing your friends how to make one for themselves.—Marion Ullmark. V



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...AT ALL SHOE REPAIRERS

WHAT IS YOUR FARM'S S.Q.?

WE asked the farmer some questions about his handling of machinery, equipment and animals. Ask yourself these same questions and see how you make out.

Q. Do you check haying equipment before haying season?

A. Yes. Especially overhead and front end loaders. I believe these are the most dangerous machines on the farm, and check them all the time.

Q. When using one of these loaders, do you start to raise the lift before you reach the haystack?

A. No, we keep the basket just a few inches off the ground until we reach the stack. Raising it while traveling causes the tractor and basket to sway. This could snap the bolts and bring the equipment down on top of you.

Q. Do you turn off the power before adjusting or unclogging machinery?

A. No, I'm afraid I don't generally take the trouble to do this.

Q. Do you keep children away from machinery and animals?

A. As a rule, yes. Sometimes I have had hired help who have been careless about this.

Q. Do you avoid wearing loose fitting or torn clothing, or torn gloves around moving machinery?

A. Yes, that's one thing I watch pretty closely.

Q. Do you avoid stepping over or under moving belts, or climbing around machinery when it's in operation?

A. Yes. Most of the time, anyway.

Q. Do you avoid operating the tractor on dangerous inclines or near the edge of treacherous banks?

A. We are very definite about that here. We gave the municipality a bit of extra land for the road allowance so they could widen the grade.

Q. Do you keep tractor speed under 4½ miles per hour when operating off the roads?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you do all your pulling from the tractor's drawbar and avoid hitching to the axle?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you see that your tractor is out of gear and the brake is set before attempting to crank it?

A. It's a long time since I had to crank a tractor, but I used to be pretty careful about that.

Q. Do you avoid getting in front of the mower to make adjustments while the machine is still in gear?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you keep guards in place on power shafts, belts and chains?

A. Yes, we generally do. It just happens that you have caught us out on that today. (Part of the tractor's power take-off shield was missing, and the worm gear of a grain auger was unprotected.)

Q. What about animals? Are you careful not to surprise them when you approach?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you take special care handling animals with new-born young?

A. I sure do. A neighbor of mine once saw a new-born calf in a bog

and got off his horse to go and get it. Just as he got to it, the mother came charging across and knocked him face down in the muck. Every time he tried to get up, she butted him again. Finally he was allowed to crawl to his horse and get home. He was laid up in hospital for weeks with an injured back. When we have to bring a new-born calf in because of cold weather, we drive the wagon right up to the calf before we load it on.

Q. Do you dehorn cattle, and have boars' tusks cut short?

A. Yes. Except for our bulls. We don't dehorn them.

Q. Do you avoid handling bulls by keeping them in a safe pen?

A. No. All our bulls are beef bulls. I think the less you pen a bull up the better his disposition is. We halter-break them.

Q. Are horses securely tied before leaving them, and is the harness in good repair?

A. We haul our feed by team in winter. When we have to leave a team standing, we unhook the tugs and wrap the reins around the line post of the rack. We always check the harness.

Q. Are you careful about wearing torn clothing or loose belts when riding a saddle horse?

A. You bet we are! And about riding with work boots too. We've had a couple of cases where men have been injured by getting their boots caught in the stirrups. We make them wear riding boots now.

Q. What other accidents have you had around here?

A. We've had two men injured by standing on a stack and pulling hay toward them with a pitchfork. In both cases, the tines of the fork jabbed them in the knees.

Q. What is the worst accident you ever had on the farm?

A. That was when I broke my neck. One night some steers got loose and got into a pasture where I had a milk cow staked out with a rope. I saddled up and went after them. When I charged in to shoo them out of that pasture, the milk cow took off too. My horse tripped over the taut rope and down I went. I had to wear a special cast for several months.

"There's no limit to the accidents you can have on a farm," he finished. "If it's not the equipment or animals, there's always the hired help."

He pointed to one of his helpers standing on the tongue of the rack to drive his team, instead of climbing up on top.

(Continued from page 94)

Step by Step Answers

Jack	Food	Play
Sack	Wood	Clay
Sick	Word	Clap
Silk	Wore	Chap
Sill	Wire	Chop
Jill	Wise	Coop
	Wish	Cook
	Dish	Cork
		Work

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LETTERS

(Continued from page 8)

Recipe Abbreviations

First I would like to compliment you on your Home and Family Section. But for some time now I have wondered what is meant by "T." in your recipes.

I am going to try your Peanut Brittle recipe. It sounds so good. Wish me luck.

We find The Country Guide so helpful and enjoy it very much, although my husband would like a serial story. Could you manage it?

Mrs. U. Warren,
R.R. 3, Lansdowne, Ont.

See page 86 for a key to the abbreviations used in Guide recipes. The first instalment of a new serial story entitled "Ranger of Sun Dance" began with the February issue.—ED.

Transplanting Advice

I was interested in the article on "Raising Tomatoes" by Doris Felstad in your last issue. It was very good, except she said: "The tomato plants in the cans are soaked beforehand, and then I slide a knife around the inside of the can and slip the entire block of soil out intact." I find a knife is not always satisfactory, because of the type of soil being used.

Before putting the soil in the cans, I take my cold chisel and put a hole an inch square in the bottom of the can. I then smooth the ragged edges and place the lid of the can inside with the earth on top of it. With this method a stick can be used to push the plant out, without disturbing the roots. I actually use a bolt about 18 inches long with a big flat head which is fastened to a small board. I put my foot on the board and push the plant up into my hands. Melons, cucumbers, or any other plant can be handled in this manner without disturbing the roots.

A. C. BURLEY,
Moose Jaw, Sask.

Utility

The magazine is proving extra useful this year as we have a daughter in training for a teacher. No issue is safe from her scissors as she finds photographs, articles and those lovely covers suitable material for her "collection."

The head snugs (October) have knitted up quickly; now I am at work on the baby outfit (popeorn) in the January issue. It's charming.

Best wishes.

MRS. HAROLD CASWELL,
R.R. 3, Port Hope, Ont.

Are You Bilingual?

J'aimerais correspondants ou correspondantes, de langue anglaise, pour recevoir en retour réponse en français. Dans le but de se familiariser avec cette langue seconde.

CECILE PLOURDE,
Le Bic (Rimouski),
Que.

Will Mr. A. J. Neufeld, who wrote to us about steel pole barns, please send us his address—ED.

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Continued from page 17

MAN IN THE "SQUEEZE"

tilizers will have to be the accepted practice on farms such as his, but he thinks that conserving straw and trash helps fertility to some extent.

FIELD insects have not bothered the Pearson farm much, except the leafhopper, which spreads the aster yellows virus in flax. He has not needed to worry about exterminating insects in stored grain, even when it has been stored on the farm as long as 4 years. He aims to move the lower grades as soon as possible, because they are more difficult to store, but even more important in insect control, he makes sure both the bins and grain are dry. Gilbert says drainage must be taken into account when erecting granaries, which should be located as high as possible and with a good back slope. As a further precaution he cleans the used bins with dry lime. After swathing the grain, he leaves it to dry, even if it must be left out all winter and has to be threshed tough. It pays him if the grain is to be stored for any length of time.

All his storage bins, except one, have concrete floors, so he has little trouble with mice. Steel bins are cheaper, but he claims they will not stand up as well if they are empty, and he prefers frame granaries, even though they need painting and repairs.

This grain grower likes wheat better than any other crop because it is the easiest to handle and store. He grows Selkirk, using seed from his son's 4-H Seed Club plot. When seed is to be cleaned, he takes it to the local elevator. Mobile seed cleaning plants don't appeal to him on account of the risk of spreading plant diseases from one farm to another.

He likes to grow barley for variety in his rotation, and because it seems to improve the soil. He had straight malting grade at good prices for several years with a pearling variety, and then he tried Montcalm in 1956, but it was frozen. He used Montcalm again in 1957, and also set aside a small test plot for Parkland, which yielded 55 bushels per acre and was accepted for malting. Consequently, he went all out with Parkland last year and sold Montcalm to his neighbors for seed. Then he found there was some delay in acceptance of Parkland for malting, while Montcalm seemed to be going for malting very easily.

However, the Parkland situation was clarified recently by the Brewing and Malting Barley Research Institute, who announced that extensive testing had indicated that Parkland was acceptable to the Canadian brewing industry. Montcalm and Olli will still be needed as a large part of the malting barley purchases for the next crop year.

AFTER a low yield on account of aster yellows in 1957, Gilbert bought some registered flax seed to be free of the disease last year. He favors Marine flax, because he can sow it early. It went in between May 7 and 10 in 1958, which enabled him to swath it between August 20 and 25.

He realizes there is a danger of the flax crop blowing away from the swath, but reduces the risk by trailing a sheet of heavy galvanized tin behind the swather to press it down. He picks up the crop after 4 or 5 days. The reason for swathing flax is to allow green weeds to dry out and leave the crop in good condition for threshing.

Flax sown in stubble has yielded as low as 5 bushels per acre, but Gilbert has seeded some mixed with wheat on summerfallow and harvested 7 bushels of flax and 10 bushels of wheat per acre. The better yield he attributes to better competition for weeds. He has shipped the mixture as a carload and was paid for the flax, wheat and screenings without having to worry about the cleaning.

Never enthusiastic about durum wheat, which he finds is not well adapted to his area, Gilbert Pearson has grown it only because of the good price. It has also been a good crop for dry years, especially on stubble. The variety he uses is Golden Ball, a good yielder with tough straw. However, there's always the danger of mixing durum with the spring wheat, and he doubts if he will grow much more of it, especially as stocks are building up in the West.

GILBERT moves to Regina in the fall, when the local school is closed, but continues to work around the farm until Christmas. After that, he keeps himself occupied with shopping around for machinery bargains, looking up the latest information on implements and crops, taking in such meetings as the grasshopper control conference and the agricultural short course, and helping with community affairs.

With about 15,000 bushels of grain in store on the farm after the last harvest, Gilbert Pearson had enough to make deliveries for the next 2 years without growing any more. However, the recent promises of increased delivery quotas could change the picture entirely. Whether it does or not, he will be back on the farm this spring when his one-man operation goes into high gear again. For people like him, with the skill and intelligence to grow top grades of grain efficiently, the rewards have not been great in recent years. But by using his head and his hands to good advantage, he has averted defeat and retained the hope that good times will come again. ✓



Continued from page 19

HOW JOHN WILSON SUCCEEDS WITH SHEEP

records that the ram's color marker provided as important as it once was. He is experienced enough to know when a ewe is approaching motherhood, and when to bring her into the lambing barn. Heat lamps are provided so that the lamb never chills, and while the Corriedale is noted for lambing without difficulty because of its refined and clean head, John is on hand to cope with any emergency that might arise. Ewes are provided with individual pens where they soon learn to identify their own lambs. After 3 days the mother has learned to recognize her lamb's bleat. She and the youngsters are then allowed the freedom of the loose housing at the end of the lambing barn.

JOHN believes exercise is vital to the good health of sheep. This is especially true in the case of the pregnant ewe, the ram and the young lamb that is often threatened by stiff lamb disease. If a lamb does show signs of lameness and presents a humped appearance, John quickly administers wheat germ oil to correct the vitamin E shortage which researchers believe causes this condition. He also sees that green alfalfa hay is kept in the creeps which contain whole oats, to which 25 per cent of wheat bran has been added. The lambs also get molasses.

Although lambs are often docked and castrated shortly after birth, John likes his to be 2 weeks of age before this is done to make certain the shock will not be too great. As soon as they have recovered from this operation, they are removed to the outside sheds.

"Cold doesn't hurt sheep if the wind is broken and they are kept dry. In fact, they should be outside for their health's sake."

Showmen sometimes complain that their ewes do not perform well after carrying the kind of finish necessary to win ribbons at major competitions, but John has never found this to be a problem. He fattens his stars on peas and oats—never barley, and since proper nutrition is reflected in the fleece, the Wilson winnings in this department alone speak well for the feeding program used. John's grand champion yearling ewe in the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair produced a 24-pound fleece!

JOHN switched to Corriedale sheep when the Shropshires, which were his first love, became too small. "I showed a Shropshire grand champion ram in Calgary that weighed 325 pounds, but a few years later the champion at Chicago weighed only 125 pounds! This trend toward dwarf animals coupled with the closed face, which is a distinct drawback in our climate, swung me to Corriedales. I've found them to be the ideal farm flock as they have good flocking instincts and are easy to handle. They are as near dual purpose as any sheep will be, I feel."

John believes the only way to cull ewes is by their performance record. "You can't afford to guess in this business, as the best paying mothers look

the most haggard after nursing twin lambs. This is one place that the records can really pay off."

Trouble from coyotes has almost disappeared with the use of 10-80, but before this came to the aid of the sheepman, John depended on good marksmanship to bring down the pest. He often shot over a dozen a year and dogs from the nearby town even now pose a threat. Though woven wire fences have been put up at a cost of \$500 a mile, even this can never offer complete protection from predators; the sheep must always be brought in at night.

Another difficult problem is that of dipping for ticks. This can cause losses if the weather turns bad, because wet fleeces cause pneumonia. There is also the possibility that the sheep may swallow some of the dip which can cause death.

Without hired help, John prevents losses by hitching the garden hose to the weed sprayer, and, with 40 pounds of pressure, he sprays around 30 head at a time with DDT insecticide.

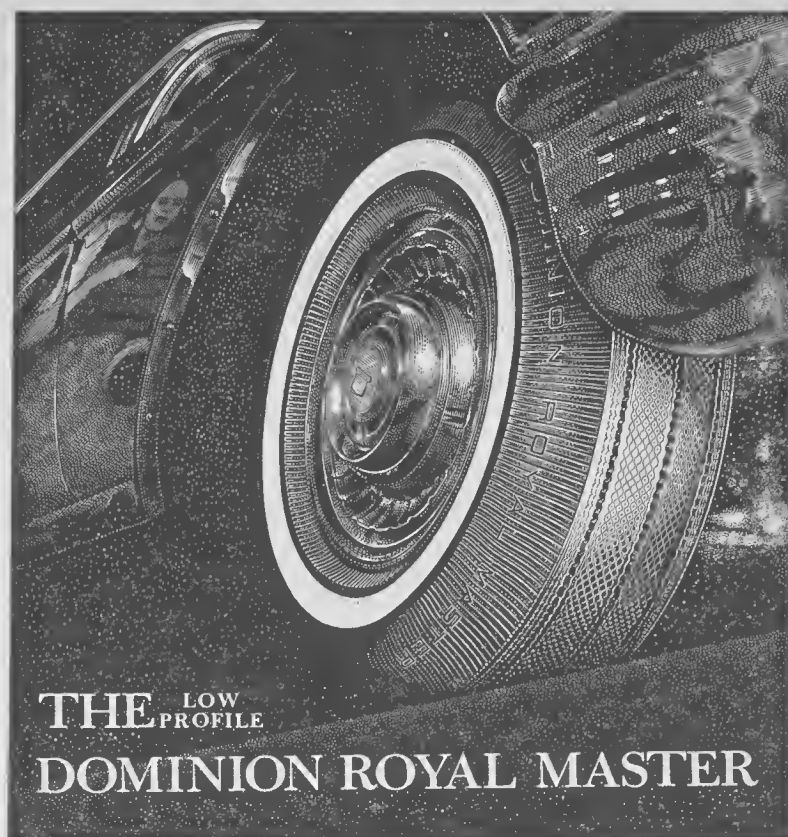
WHEN John is on the show circuit the Wilsons' 17-year-old daughter, Elizabeth Ann, is in charge of the place. Though she is carrying a full load of Grade XII subjects, Elizabeth, who is as attractive as any professional model, has a thorough understanding of the sheep business. In fact, she owns some of the winners her father shows! Like her father and his father before him, Elizabeth Ann is passionately fond of animals. A brother, John, gave up his menagerie of pets in favor of a career in petroleum engineering in Oklahoma.

While Mrs. Wilson was a city girl who has learned to love rural living and the animals that are so much a part of her life, she still takes time off from farm duties to serve as a substitute teacher in the town's school. She was doing just that the day of our visit, but she hurried home to prepare a delightful lunch with two kinds of cake. When I asked her how she manages so much baking while away from home, she proved that she has some secrets of household management that compare favorably with those her husband practices outside.

"I bake 3 days every year—pies, cakes, cookies, rolls—everything, and I freeze a year's supply ahead!"

Born in Scotland, John came from a long line of expert stockmen who also toured the country with ribbon-winning animals. He's been on Glenwood Farm 44 years, having taken it over from his father. He's a quiet, soft-spoken, modest man who has won the respect and admiration of sheepmen across the country. He's been a director of the Alberta Sheep Breeders' Association for 37 years. He has served a long term as president. He has been a director of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Grower since 1934, and president since 1950.

They could scarcely find a better man for these jobs!



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HANDLING FEED IN BULK

is divided into 5 pens, and the big 1½-ton capacity home-made self-feeding hoppers are set to form part of the wall between pens. They feed out on both sides, so that 3 such feeders are sufficient for the 5 pens. Pipes lead from the back wall of the hog pen straight into the hoppers. When the Thamesville Co-operative's truck delivers twice a week, it attaches the blower to each pipe in turn, and blows feed right into the hoppers, eliminating the day-to-day handling for Conliffe. This is one of the features that enables this young farmer to look after 250 hogs with little more than 10 hours of labor a week.

Beef producer Harold Cleave, who is partially retired on his Georgetown farm, turned to bulk handling this year. He trucks 200 bushels of oats to Peart's mill in Brampton, where it is ground, mixed with 24 per cent concentrate, and hauled back to the farm in bulk by Peart's truck and blown out onto the barn floor. From there, Cleave can feed it down a chute into mangers for the 25 steers feeding below, saving both work and expense. As a result, he enjoys some of the leisure of retirement without completely sacrificing his farm income.

Brampton dairyman Albert Dunn, who milks about 20 Holsteins, got 5 tons of 24 per cent dairy concentrate crumbles delivered by Peart last fall, and had them blown into 2 small bins in his granary. He says it saved hours of work unloading the truck, and saved storage space too. His cash savings were \$9 a ton—\$4 for buying in bulk and \$5 for buying in quantity. Those 5 tons lasted all winter and, because he had several good cats around, there was no apparent mouse damage. He says the birds didn't touch the crumbles either. Dunn mixed the concentrate with his home-grown oats which he put through a roller mill.

POULTRYMAN Ken Ella at Hornby is another who wouldn't go back to bags now that he gets his feed in bulk. A year ago, his hens were scattered in several pens around the farm, and it seemed that half his time was spent in shouldering bags of feed, carrying them around the barnyard and up and down steps. Last fall, he built a new 2,000-bird poultry house to consolidate his flock, and installed a divided overhead bin at one end with spouts opening onto the pen floor. The bin holds 2 tons of laying mash, and a ton of scratch

grains, and is filled every 2 weeks. Now, 15-year-old Keith Ella can easily feed the birds before school each morning and again in the evening. Ken himself feeds pellets (which he still buys in the bag) in only about 5 minutes at noon.

All the wrinkles haven't been taken out of the bulk feed idea for average-sized farmers yet. Feed mill operators will be obliged to buy trucks and install overhead bins in order to offer the program to their customers. Farmers themselves will have to build overhead bins to get full satisfaction from it. The bulk feed idea calls for some degree of specialization, because feed men concede that freshness is a valuable factor in palatability of feeds.

But now that more farmers are specializing with larger dairy or beef or swine herds, it's no wonder that both the farmer and the feed mill operator are taking a close look at the cash and labor savings they can make by turning to bulk handling.

ASSISTANT Chief Engineer of Wirthmore Feeds in Massachusetts, which has specialized in bulk feeds, told Canadian agricultural engineers meeting at Guelph last summer that farmers must give careful planning to installation of their bins.

He said bins must hold no more than one month's supply, and in summer it might be best to use up the feed more frequently than that. He recommended that 2 bins be installed rather than 1, so that each can be cleaned out completely each time. Bins must be designed for maximum flow too, with 2 or 3 straight sides, and the other sloped at a 60-degree angle. Dairy feeds, he said, which are high in molasses content, may be only semi-free flowing, unless they are in pelleted form. He said too, that the deeper the feed in the bin, the greater the unit pressure, and the more difficult it is to keep the feed flowing freely.

He said all bins must have an access opening at the top to provide for inspection and cleaning of the bin. They must also have a vented top to exhaust air when they are being filled. He recommended an 8-inch pipe leading out of the bin into a burlap bag to collect the fine material. Overhead bins which make maximum use of gravity have worked out best.

Separation of the feed particles by bulk handling has not proven to be the problem which was at first anticipated. V

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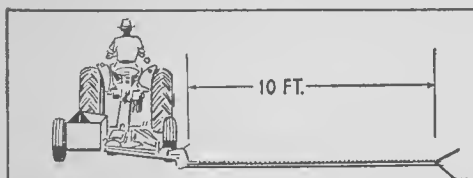
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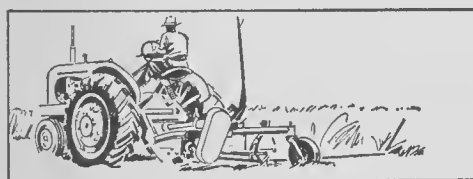
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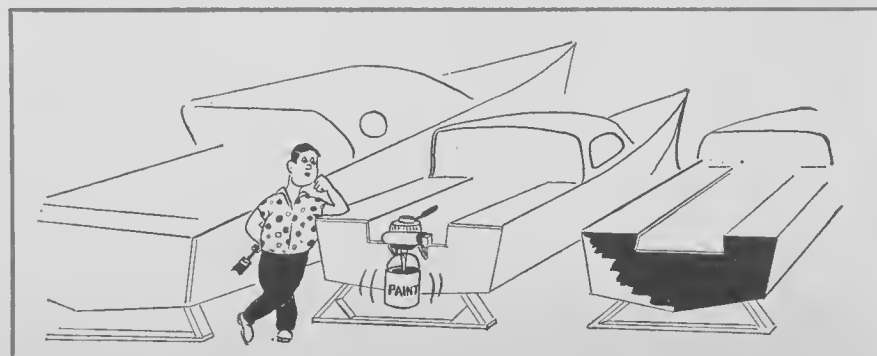
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What Farm Organizations Are Doing

(Continued from page 13)

in national income were of major concern to his Government, and that the state had a responsibility for just treatment. He was prepared to do what he could to give agriculture a fair profit within the framework of a national program.

From the context of the Prime Minister's speech there was nothing that would indicate a closed-door attitude indicated by Agriculture Minister Harkness previously. The FUA agreed to watch developments over the next 3 to 4 weeks and would be prepared to move in any direction which a turn of events would indicate. ✓

QUESTIONS RAISED BY MFU PRESIDENT

Farmers are viewing with alarm the announcement by Hon. D. S. Harkness, Minister of Agriculture, that price supports on hogs will be lowered, on October 1st, to the lowest possible level permissible under the Agricultural Stabilization Act passed by the Conservative government in January 1958, according to R. Usick, president of the Manitoba Farmers' Union.

"Far more is involved than the \$1.35 drop in the support price. The whole concept of the Stabilization Act and its administration is now coming into proper focus, and is receiving the serious consideration of farm leaders everywhere," said Mr. Usick.

For example, Mr. Usick believes these four obvious questions need to be answered:

1. Does the decision taken by Mr. Harkness and the Government mean that they have departed from their policy enunciated in the preamble of the Stabilization Act to ensure that "agriculture receives its fair share of the national income," or the clause which states that the farmer should be guaranteed a price "bearing a fair relationship to his cost of production"?

2. Does it mean that the announcement last November by Mr. Harkness that unless hog production was lowered he would cut supports, indicate that he anticipates controlling production by price alone? In Mr. Usick's view, this is a concept far outdated, as Ezra Benson in the United States found when he lowered prices and production increased.

3. Does surplus production of any food product at any time (adequate food reserves are necessary to guarantee enough food for the nation at all times) mean that floor prices will be lowered just when they are needed the most by farmers to keep the bottom of the market from falling out?

4. Does this whole attitude toward using price supports mean that the \$250,000,000 set aside for the purpose of supporting agriculture each year will be used solely as a shrine to be looked at and observed by farmers, but not to be touched or made use of? Why did the government increase the Fund from \$200,000,000 to \$250,000,000 (to be available each year) if they did not anticipate making use of it?

"We hope the Minister of Agriculture

follows up vigorously the suggestion he made that his Department will undertake a study of the use of deficiency payments for hogs," added Mr. Usick.

"The Farm Union policy of paying a deficiency payment to producers on hogs and other agricultural products up to the average cost of production and limiting the support to a basic volume of production for each farmer, would guarantee the largest measure of support to the family farm. It would also eliminate the problem of the factory-type production involved in vertical integration which the Minister of Agriculture gave as the major reason for lowering the hog price next October 1st," concluded Mr. Usick. ✓

MFA HOLDS YOUTH LEADERSHIP WEEK

The Manitoba Federation of Agriculture sponsored its second annual youth leadership week at the University of Manitoba, March 30 to April 3. The week was especially planned to prepare young people for a future of responsibility and leadership in their communities. Studies were centered on the changing role of the rural community, recreation programs for rural youth, public speaking and co-operative education. Other subjects which were considered included dating, etiquette and interior house design. More than 50 rural youths from 38 communities throughout the province attended. ✓

AFA MEETS PROVINCIAL CABINET

The Alberta Federation of Agriculture, in its annual presentation to Premier Manning and his Cabinet, stated that the question "Where do we go from here?" was certainly foremost in the minds of our farm people and, to say the least, they were confused and worried as to what the outcome would be. High farm costs, with some continuing to rise, the trend to overproduction, and the pressures associated with the technical revolution in agriculture, were all leading to serious problems for farmers.

The brief indicated that farm organizations would require the help and advice of both the provincial and Federal governments to work out a constructive program to meet the problems facing farmers, so that in the end, agriculture could function in such a manner that farmers could carry on with a minimum use of price supports, deficiency payments, or other governmental aids.

Specifically the brief requested the Alberta Government to:

- Study the desirability of setting up a separate Department of Co-operation under a Minister of Co-operation.

- Change the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act so that a marketing board plan can be brought into effect on an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the farmers voting in a plebiscite.

- Amend the Farm Purchase Credit Act to permit larger loans for longer periods of time, with the interest rate not to exceed 4 per cent simple interest.

- Continue to support the AFA stand that no further freight rate increases be allowed until, at least, the Government of Canada has appointed and received a report from a competent tribunal charged with making a far-reaching inquiry into railway operations.

- Consider the development of a research program in animal breeding to be conducted by the Animal Science Department, University of Alberta.

- Intensify, in co-operation with the Federal Government, research work on hail suppression, and include in this research a program on cloud seeding.

- Establish a soil testing service in southern Alberta. ✓

What's Happening

(Continued from page 10)

last year, but 5 per cent below the recent 1953-57 average.

Corn for Grain. This crop, grown mainly in Ontario, but including small commercial acreages in Manitoba, may be sown on 493,500 acres, a decrease of 1 per cent from 1958.

Flaxseed. Acreage of 2.7 million acres this year indicates an increase of 1 per cent from 1958 and 28 per cent from the 1953-57 average of 2.1 million acres. Prospective decreases in Saskatchewan and Ontario may be offset by increases in Alberta, Manitoba and B.C.

Rapeseed. This crop is likely to show a substantial decline if intentions are confirmed. Indicated acreage at 420,000 acres in 1959 is a decrease of 38 per cent from 1958, the record year, but still 79 per cent above the 1953-57 average of 235,000 acres.

Mustard Seed. The intended acreage, at 80,000 acres, shows a decrease of 8 per cent from 1958 and 5 per cent from the recent 5-year average.

Sunflower Seed. This crop, grown mainly in Manitoba, may decrease 22 per cent to 38,000 acres in 1959.

Soybean. Acreage of this crop may decline to 233,000 acres because of a prospective decrease in Ontario of 9 per cent.

Potatoes. With the exception of Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta and B.C., where slight to moderate increases are in prospect, it is expected that potato acreage in other provinces will remain the same or decline slightly from those seeded in 1958. The Canada total, currently placed at 302,500 acres, is 3 per cent below 1958 and the 1953-57 average of 313,160 acres. ✓

OFA MAY ESTABLISH TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture committee on freight rates has recommended that the organization establish a permanent transport department providing arrangements can be made to finance it. The purposes of the new department would be to study transportation costs on products bought and sold by agriculture; "unfair" transportation costs on specific farm commodities; and, the possibility of setting up alternative transportation systems. In addition, the committee recommended that specific studies on particular commodities could be done by the department and paid for at cost by the member group concerned.

Leonard Laventure, chairman of the freight rates committee, quoted CFA figures showing that farmers make up 13 per cent of the population, earn 8 per cent of the national income, and pay 36 per cent of the nation's freight bill. It seemed to him that in view of this situation the expenditure of a few thousand dollars for study of freight rates would be a wise move for the OFA. ✓

HOG PRICE SUPPORT LOWERED

Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. D. S. Harkness, announced in the House of Commons on March 23, that the existing price of \$25.00 per 100 lb., basis Toronto and Montreal, warm dressed weight for Grade A carcasses, with appropriate prices for other markets, will continue in effect until September 30, at which time it will be lowered to 80 per cent of the 10-year average, or to \$23.65. The reduced price will be in effect for the period October 1, 1959, to March 31, 1960.

In making the announcement, the Minister presented the following statement in support of the decision:

"As is well known, hog marketings in 1958, and more particularly during the last quarter of 1958 and in 1959 to date, have been running at unusually high levels. This has resulted in hog prices over the past 6 months remaining at or close to the support level. It has also resulted in a considerable accumulation of pork products by the Stabilization Board.

"There is good reason to believe that one of the important factors behind the increased production of hogs is the development of so-called vertical integration, financed or sponsored in one way or another by large commercial organizations.

"The assured price under the existing stabilization program appears to have been an important factor in the greatly accelerated production under this type of operation. I have, therefore directed the Stabilization Board and officers of the Department to actively explore the method of providing price support for hogs by means of a payment to producers, commonly described as a deficiency payment, rather than by an undertaking to purchase product. Under this alternative method, the price of hogs

would not be supported in the market, but producers would be paid the difference between the actual average price received and the prescribed support price. This method would make it possible to withhold payments from commercial organizations operating under the so-called vertical integration plan, and to limit payments to any individual to a specific number of hogs delivered.

"I am sure that all who have knowledge of hog production and marketing procedures will agree, that before radical changes are made, an administratively sound plan must be developed. Consequently, I cannot at this moment state when the proposed change can be put into effect. However, I wish to assure the House that every effort will be made to complete the necessary studies and put the alternative plan into effect at the earliest possible date."

COMPENSATION FOR RABIES

Ontario's farmers are to be compensated for losses suffered from rabies. Maximum payments will be: Cattle, \$250; horses, \$100; sheep, \$40; swine, \$40; and goats, \$40. The federal and provincial governments will each contribute 40 per cent of the payments, while the county involved will make up the remainder. Payments will be retroactive to April 1, 1958.

OIL SEED CROP MARKET TO EXPAND

Within 6 years Canada will need a billion pounds of food fats and oils annually to meet the needs of its growing population. This was forecast by Robin E. Merry, president of the Institute of Edible Oil Foods, in an address to the organization's annual meeting last month.

According to Mr. Merry, this meant that the opportunities for expansion of Canadian grown vegetable oil seed crops were tremendous. He pointed out that by 1965, if Canadian producers used only Canadian grown vegetable oils, there would be a need for 2 million acres of soybeans or equivalent crops.

"This would bring a revenue to Canadian farmers from this type of crop of \$100 million—nearly 8 times the value of the 1958 soybean crops," he said. "Where else in Canadian agriculture does such an opportunity for expansion exist?" he asked.

Mr. Merry thought that unless the increase in Canadian needs for vegetable oils is to continue to be supplied by even greater imports, an all-out program must begin at once to assist Canadian farmers to convert to soybean and other vegetable oil seed crops.

SHARP RISE IN PORK STOCKS

Cold storage stocks of pork at March 1 totalled 51.6 million lb., an increase of 188 per cent over the 17.9 million lb. in store on the same date in 1958. A major proportion of these stocks represented pork cuts owned by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. As at March 2, the Board held 32.4 million lb. of pork cuts. By March 16, Board holdings had increased to 38.8 million lb.

P.T. OF BEEF BULLS CATCHES ON IN ONTARIO

Ontario's beef industry turned a corner last month. For decades, beef men have relied on the show ring as the prime measure of their stock's breeding worth. But at the annual Toronto bull sale, sponsored by the Ontario Beef Cattle Improvement Committee, it was glaringly apparent that by the time the last bull had been sold something had happened to old values.

Some animals from the top show herds of the province, couldn't find buyers at any price. Rich pedigrees and high-priced ancestors couldn't help them. They hadn't been performance tested, and many of them were passed from the ring without a bid. But tested bulls (and almost half the bulls offered this year were that kind), which had acceptable type, found buyers aplenty. Farmer breeders, who had never reached the top in the country's show rings, but who had plugged away at testing their cattle and selecting the growthy kind with acceptable conformation, had their payoff. Buyers wanted proof that the bulls they bought were more than just pleasing to the eye. They paid for that proof, too.

Farmer breeder Ken Watterworth of West Lorne brought out a polled Hereford that came through the province's performance test with the highest final weight (at about 13½ months) of any bull of any breed so far. It was 1,280 lb., and the bull topped the entire sale, going to the Waterloo Cattle Breeding Association for \$3,000. Uxbridge farmer and Angus breeder Malcolm Bailey offered a bull that had scored an average daily gain of 3.13 lb. on test and had a final weight on test of 1,130 lb. It was awarded the reserve championship ribbon in the pre-sale show. This bull went for \$2,800, or three times the price of the untested grand champion.

The highest selling Shorthorn, at \$2,075, was a performance tested bull from the S. G. Bennett herd (one of the country's top show herds) which had an average daily gain on test of 2.62 lb. and a final weight of 1,083 lb. But the champion Shorthorn sold for \$875.

The champion Hereford combined type with performance ability. From the Ringwood herd of George Rodanz, it made an average daily gain while on test of 2.91 lb., came off test at a weight of 1,080 lb., and sold for \$2,000. The reserve champion, an untested bull, sold for \$750.

Averages told the same story. The 4 performance tested Angus bulls averaged \$1,486 compared to \$595 for the other 18. The 52 tested and approved Hereford bulls outsold the others by over \$200, averaging \$780. The 40 tested Shorthorns, in averaging \$563, outsold the untested 49 by \$83.

The hold of the show ring over beef breeding has not been easily broken. For years the department of agriculture's officials, and representatives of the commercial beef industry as well, have been talking up performance testing of beef bulls in Ontario. They pointed out that scientists had proven that fast-gaining bulls made efficient gains, and that they tended to sire fast-gaining calves.

A performance testing station was established at Guelph years ago, and a program for testing was set up and revised from time to time to make it more useful. Meanwhile, wary breeders hesitated. They continued to rely on the show ring as measure enough for their cattle. But last year, the provincial government's Bull Premium Policy was changed. Tested and approved bulls were made eligible for a premium of up to \$200, while non-tested bulls were limited to a maximum of \$120. By sale time, in March of this year, there were tested bulls available in numbers for the first time. Buyers did the rest.

SASK. MOVES ON LAND POLICY

The Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. I. C. Nollet, has announced that a series of meetings with farmers in the potential irrigable areas cover-

ed by the South Saskatchewan Dam project are to be arranged at an early date. Purpose of the meetings will be to acquaint farmers with the general outline of land policy in regard to the South Saskatchewan project, and to provide them with full, factual information on the benefits and problems associated with irrigation farming.

Procedure and broad policy will take the following lines:

1. One of the many potential areas will be selected to receive the benefits of irrigation first. The Saskatchewan Government is committed to develop 50,000 acres within a year of completion of the reservoir.

2. Farm Meetings will be held in potential areas, and each group will be asked to select representatives to act on their behalf in working out land policy details with the Government.

3. Irrigation must be desired by



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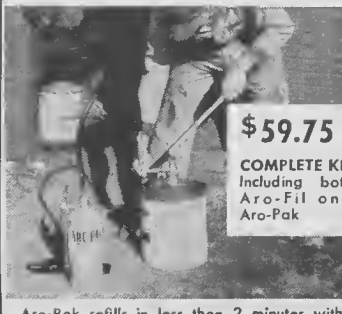
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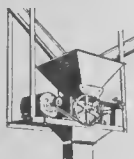
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WHAT'S HAPPENING



[Alberta Govt. photo]

Daniel J. Mokeberg (left) of Markerville was welcomed as the first dairyman in Alberta's Agricultural Hall of Fame by Dr. J. J. Bowlen, Lieutenant-Governor. In the center is L. C. Halmrast, Alberta Minister of Agriculture.

farmers in the areas selected for initial development, but the areas must have suitable soils and be desirable from an engineering and economic point of view.

4. The Government has recognized the need for credit for qualified irrigation farmers, both for land purchase and preparation for irrigation, and is exploring the best system to implement to meet this need.

5. The Government is suggesting a one-half-section unit, containing a minimum irrigable acreage of 200 acres, as a desirable irrigable farm size.

6. Under the irrigation development policy, irrigation farmers will control the administration of the irrigation area through an "Irrigation District." In these districts a board of irrigation farmers, elected by their neighbors, will act as the local policy making group.

7. There will be no direct restriction of private land transfers, unless land speculation occurs.

8. It may be necessary for the Government to enter the market for land in the selected irrigation areas. This would assure established dry land farmers a market for their land at reasonable prices.

POULTRY MEAT SITUATION DESCRIBED AS CRITICAL

An appeal to Canada's poultry meat industry "to put its house in order" came from the Ontario Poultry Council meeting in Guelph on March 18. The Council, an all-industry group, found no justification for current increases in broiler and turkey production. Already prices are seriously affected and the full impact of increased pork supplies is still to be felt. The appeal is directed mainly at broiler contractors, feed credit managers, and the banks backing them. Ontario and Quebec are the key areas for chicken and turkey broiler production, the Prairie Provinces for heavy turkeys. A bleak future is forecast for broiler and turkey growers if present placement rates continue.

The great volume of poultry is proving a worry to processors with grower contracts. The Ontario Poultry Processors' Association, representing 95 per cent of Ontario capacity, tabled a unanimous declaration of intentions to adjust placements to prospective lower requirements. The Association is contacting its Quebec counterparts on the problem.

Relative shortage of red meats has brought poultry into prominence in recent years. Broilers and turkeys easily undersold beef and pork but the poultry cost-price margin was narrow. There is little slack to take up, now that pork prices are weakening. To maintain present sales, poultry prices must go lower; hence the concern because broilers and turkeys are still on the increase. The greatest problem in 1959 is likely to be with mature weight turkeys.

The fowl market presents a different problem. Prices down to 12¢ to 14¢ a pound for medium weight hens, are holding layers on farms. Fowl marketings are down 16 per cent from last year and 20 per cent from 1957, but this doesn't help producers. The price of other poultry, particularly American fowl, sets Canada's fowl market.

Poultrymen feel that the Agricultural Stabilization Board at Ottawa should pay some attention to the fowl question. It is the hold-back of hens on farms that is giving the Board such an embarrassing surplus of eggs to subsidize and export this year, under the price support program.

The Ontario Council plans to meet soon with the Quebec Poultry Industry Committee in an effort to strengthen the request for a 5¢ minimum duty per pound on eviscerated poultry. This would correspond to the U.S. duty.

FRUIT GROWERS VOTE FOR MARKETING BOARD

Ontario's fruit growers have voted in favor of selling through a marketing board the peaches, pears, plums and cherries which they grow for processing.

Growers were asked if they were in favor of a plan, to be known as "The Ontario Tender Fruit Growers' Marketing-for-Processing Plan," for the marketing of the above named fruits.

Vote in favor of the proposed plan was 942, while those opposed numbered 146. Of the 2,640 voters eligible to vote, 1,116 cast ballots with 28 being spoiled. The vote indicates that 86.5 per cent of those who voted favor the marketing legislation.

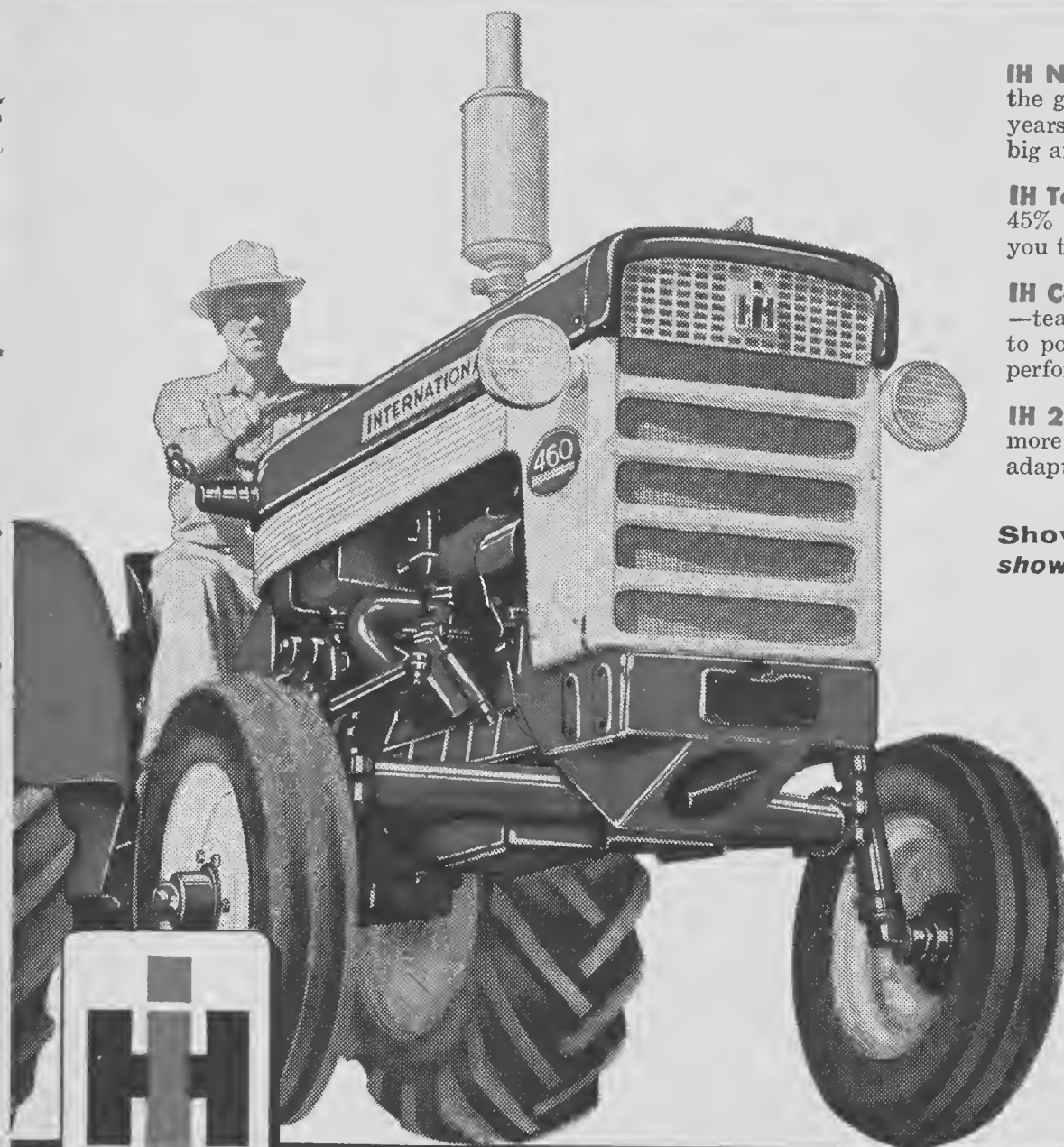


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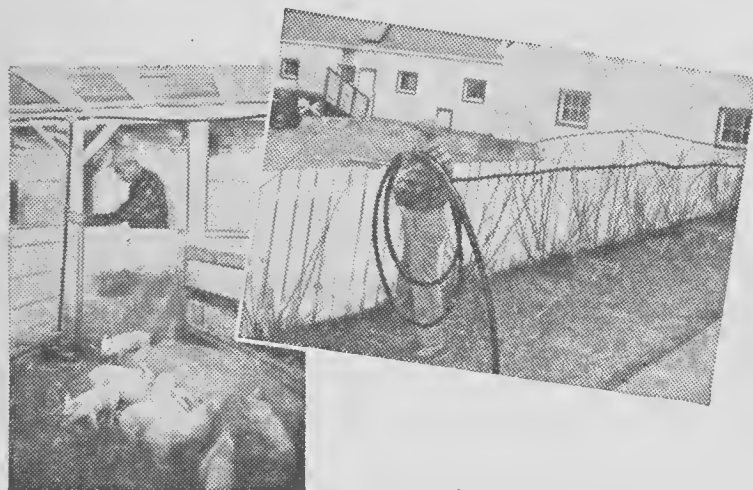
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Rural Route Letter

Hi Folks:

The other day I was making out one of those farm survey forms when I walked Ted Corbett and plunked himself down beside me. He didn't say anything for a minute or two because he was busy rolling himself a smoke from my tobacco tin, and peering over my shoulder to see what I was writing. For good measure, he made a couple of extra smokes and shoved them in his shirt pocket.

"Is your farm hitting on all six?" he read, and then he chuckled. "That economist fella tried to get me to fill one of those things out, but I was too smart for him. You go ahead, though. One of these days you'll be hitting chunks of rock with a sledge hammer."

"What do you mean by that?"

"Well, this here fella works for the Government doesn't he?" Ted grinned slyly.

"Sure he works for the Government. Who did you think he worked for, Fidel Castro?"

He wagged a warning finger at me. "No use getting huffy when I'm trying to do you a favor. Just take a look at what you're putting down on that paper now — the average pounds of butterfat you sell per cow, your milk receipts, number of hogs sold, average crop yields and all kinds of like

information. Man, there's enough to hang you right there."

"I don't get you," said I. "The guy needs all this stuff to figure out what kind of a job I'm doing as a farmer compared to other fellas with the same kind of set-up. Then he'll use the information to show me where I can make a few improvements."

"Ha!" Ted scoffed, "that's what he says. Tell me now, who else works for the Government?"

"Why lots of people do."

"Sure and the Income Tax inspector is one of them. Just as soon as you finish that thing, they'll rush it to the nearest income tax office and compare it with the returns you've sent in. And if they don't jibe, brother, we won't be seeing you for a couple of years!"

"Well I sure won't be going to jail for making too much money," I chuckled, "and I don't think anybody else in this valley will either. They won't rush this case of mine over to the Income Tax people—they'll take it to the Red Cross. I should be eligible for the disaster relief fund."

Some people have the darndest idea about farm surveys.

Yours,
 PETE WILLIAMS.

The Tillers

by JIM ZILVERBERG

